



Missouri Department of Conservation

Conservation Facts Handbook 2012-2013

A Resource for Those Who Speak and Write About
the Missouri Department of Conservation



This document should be referenced:

Missouri Department of Conservation, 2013. Conservation Facts Handbook 2012-2013. Missouri Department of Conservation, Jefferson City, MO. 109pp.

Acknowledgements:

Document preparation and editing by Michele Baumer, Megan Halford, Christy Kormann, Jan Syrigos, and Jesse Utrecht. Photography by Max Allen, Noppadol Paothong, David Stonner and Cliff White. Artwork by David Besenger, Mark S. Raithel, and Charles W. Schwartz.

Based on the 2008 edition prepared by Angela Belden and David H. Thorne.

Table of Contents

- Fast Facts 1**
 - Key Messages and Supporting Examples for the Missouri Department of Conservation 1
 - Important Facts to Know 5
 - Significant Accomplishments of the Department 6
 - Did You Know? 7
 - Mission, Vision, Goals, Focus Areas, and Values 8
 - Organization Chart..... 10
- Awards 11**
 - Master Conservationist Award 11
 - Induction into the Conservation Hall of Fame 11
- Budgets and Finances 12**
 - Budget of the State of Missouri-Fiscal Year 2012 12
 - Actual Receipts and Disbursements of the Department-Fiscal Year 2012 13
 - Sales Tax 14
 - Conservation Sales Tax..... 15
- Comprehensive Conservation Strategy 18**
- Conservation Commission..... 19**
 - Commissioners 19
 - Duties of the Commission 20
 - Formation of the Commission 20
 - Meetings of the Conservation Commission..... 22
- Constitution of Missouri Related to the Department..... 23**
- Contacts for the Public 25**
 - Endangered Species 25
 - Fish Kills 25
 - Media Contacts..... 25
 - Nuisance Wildlife..... 25
 - Offices 28

Design for Conservation: A Plan to Increase Efforts..... 29

Directors 30

Director’s Office 31

 Director.....31

 Deputy Directors.....31

 Assistant to the Director.....31

 Administrative Support.....32

 Custodian of Records.....32

 Federal Aid32

 General Counsel.....32

 Internal Audit32

 Policy Coordination.....32

 Realty Services.....33

Divisions 34

 Administrative Services Division.....34

 Design & Development34

 Fisheries.....34

 Forestry.....35

 Human Resources.....35

 Outreach & Education35

 Private Land Services.....36

 Protection.....37

 Resource Science37

 Wildlife38

Employees 39

 Quick Statistics39

 Salaries and Benefits.....40

Facilities 41

Facts and Figures..... 42

 Accomplishments in One Year - 2012.....42

 Demographics and Opinions of Missourians53

 Economic Impact of Conservation in Missouri54

Federal Assistance Programs 55

 The Wildlife Restoration Program 55

 The Sport Fish Restoration Program 56

 Forestry Program 57

 USDA Farm Bill (Private Land Work) 58

History of the Department 59

Hunter Education..... 72

Information Resources..... 73

 Annual Report..... 73

 Missouri Conservationist Magazine..... 73

 Missouri Department of Conservation Website 73

 Ombudsman Report..... 74

 Policy Manuals..... 74

 Secretary of State Report..... 74

 The Wildlife Code 74

Department Lands 75

 Overview..... 75

 Missouri Natural Areas 75

 Names and Name Changes 76

 Quick Facts of Land Managed in Natural Areas 77

Logo of the Department 78

Marketing/Awareness Programs 80

 Discover Nature 80

 No MOre Trash! 81

 Stash Your Trash 81

 Operation Forest Arson 81

 Operation Game Thief..... 82

 Share the Harvest..... 82

News Releases 83

Partners 84

 Conservation Federation of Missouri 84

 Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation..... 85

Peer Comparisons 86
Duties of Other Agencies in Missouri and Common Abbreviations 86
Surrounding States 91

Permits..... 93
Permit Facts..... 93
Permit Sales in Missouri in 2011 93
Purchasing Permits..... 94

References and Reading List..... 96
Books..... 96
Videos..... 96
Web Resources..... 97

Regulations 98
Overview..... 98
Process for Developing Regulations 99
The Wildlife Code 99

Research 101

Traditions..... 102
State Fair..... 102
Arbor Day..... 102
Murals..... 102

Volunteer Programs..... 104
Hunter Education Instructors 104
Missouri Forestkeepers 104
Missouri Master Naturalists 104
Stream Teams 105
Volunteer Naturalists 105
Shooting Ranges and Outdoor Education Centers 105
Index..... 107

Key Messages and Supporting Examples for the Missouri Department of Conservation

We have so many great stories to tell about the many different things we do as Department employees and volunteers. We help so many people in so many ways. It can be a bit overwhelming for us -- and the public -- to grasp the "big picture" of what we do and why it is important. What can tie all of our various stories together? What are the essential things we want people to remember about us? **Department Key Messages can help.**

Whether we are talking about the Department to a neighbor, making a community presentation, doing a media interview, working at an event, writing a newsletter, or simply answering the phone, what we say has a strong influence on how well people understand who we are and what we do -- and why it's important to them. **Department Key Messages can help.**

Key messages provide a simple, consistent and ongoing focus on an organization's core strengths and benefits. They are vital for an organization to be successful in its communications and memorable to its publics.

With that in mind, the following Department Key Messages can help us all focus on the essentials of who we are, what we do and why it is important:

1. **Missourians care about conserving forests, fish, and wildlife.**
2. **We work with you and for you to sustain healthy forests, fish, and wildlife.**
3. **We help people discover nature.**
4. **Conservation makes Missouri a great place to hunt and fish.**
5. **Conservation pays by enriching our economy and quality of life.**

Our Department Key Messages are based on our Mission, Vision, Values, Goals and Focus Areas. Consider them a checklist of what we want people to remember about us. Use them with examples to help tell our many stories.

1. Missourians care about conserving forests, fish, and wildlife.

Use this message to emphasize that the public supports what we do, and tell how through examples such as:

- Conservation-focused citizens created the Department in 1936 and expanded support in 1976 with a one eighth of one percent sales tax.
- Ninety-one percent of Missourians are interested in our state's forest, fish, and wildlife.
- Ninety-one percent of Missourians agree that outdoor places should be protected.
- The majority of Missourians believe the Department is doing a good job.

2. We work with you and for you to sustain healthy forests, fish, and wildlife.

Use this message to emphasize that we value partnerships and service, and tell how through examples such as:

- We partner with many organizations and tens-of-thousands of individuals to improve Missouri's forests, fish, and wildlife.
- We have more than 4,000 Stream Teams that volunteer more than 136,000 hours annually.
- We have more than 1,200 volunteers who provide hunter-education instruction.
- Our hunter-education program has graduated more than 1.1 million hunters since 1987.
- More than 600 volunteers provide more than 66,000 hours of service at our nature centers, offices, and shooting ranges each year.
- We have more than 34,000 students participating in our Missouri National Archery in the Schools Program (MoNASP).
- We partner with more than 80,000 private landowners to improve habitats.
- We manage 900,000 acres for Missourians and nature.
- We support 1,200 Missouri Master Naturalists in 12 chapters who provide more than 44,000 hours of volunteer service to conservation efforts each year.
- We focus on the future through sustainable management of resources.
- We are a national leader in conservation.
- We partner with approximately 800 fire departments to protect our forests from wildfires.

- We have more than 2,500 volunteer Forest Keepers in urban and rural areas who volunteer almost 18,000 hours observing and reporting on the condition of rural and community forests.
- Tree nursery produces about three million seedlings each year for landowners.
- We award more than \$250,000 per year in community tree cost-share grants to Missouri towns.

3. We help people discover nature.

Use this message to emphasize the importance of people being connected to the outdoor world, and tell how we do this through examples such as:

- We have more than 900,000 annual visitors to Nature and Conservation Education Centers.
- There are more than 600,000 hunters in Missouri.
- Our hunter-education program has graduated more than 1.1 million hunters since 1987.
- There are 1.1 million anglers in Missouri.
- There are 2.2 million wildlife watchers in Missouri.
- We offer more than 900 Conservation Areas for a variety of outdoor activities.
- We have more than 500,000 subscribers to Missouri Conservationist and more than 1 million readers.
- We have more than 34,000 students participating in our Missouri National Archery in the Schools Program (MoNASP).
- We have more than 100,000 *Xplor* subscribers.
- We have more than 70,000 students in our Discover Nature Schools program.
- We support 1,200 Missouri Master Naturalists in 12 chapters who provide more than 44,000 hours of volunteer service to conservation efforts each year.
- We have more than 5.7 million visits to our website annually and almost 17.6 million page views.
- We have more than 3.6 million unique visitors to our website annually, including almost 2.6 million in Missouri.

4. Conservation makes Missouri a great place to fish and hunt.

Use this message to emphasize that we value Missouri's outdoor recreation heritage, and tell how through examples such as:

- Missouri has 1.1 million anglers and more than 600,000 hunters.
- Programs make it easy for Missourians of all ages to fish and hunt.
- Our hunter-education program has graduated more than 1.1 million hunters since 1987.
- Missouri is one of the top states for hunter and angler recruitment.
- Anglers in Missouri spend more than 16 million days fishing.
- Hunters in Missouri spend more than nine million days hunting.
- Missouri is ranked 5th in the nation for number of resident hunters and 10th in the nation for number of resident anglers.
- We offer a statewide system of five staffed ranges and over 62 conservation areas with unstaffed ranges.
- Missouri has some of the best deer and turkey hunting in the nation.
- Our hatcheries stock Missouri waters with more than five million fish each year.
- Our forest management efforts have helped make Missouri one of the best states for hunting and fishing.

5. Conservation pays by enriching our economy and quality of life.

Use this message to emphasize the economic and social value of what we do, and tell how through examples such as:

- Missouri's economy and quality of life are built on our forests, fish, and wildlife resources.
- More than \$11 billion is generated each year by conservation-related activities such as hunting, fishing, wildlife watching, and forest products.
- More than \$60 of economic activity is generated for each dollar in the Department annual budget.
- More than 95,000 Missouri jobs are supported by conservation-related activities.
- Healthy forest, fish, and wildlife make our communities better places to live and work.
- One in four Missouri tourism dollars is spent on forest, fish, and wildlife recreation.
- Healthy woods means cleaner waters and healthier wildlife.
- Conservation funding is still less than one-percent of the state budget.

As a “memory aid” to help you recall the core points of the key messages, remember:

“You care. We serve. It pays. – Conservation.”

Important Facts to Know

- *Conservation pays its way in Missouri.* The amount of state sales tax revenue generated from forest, fish, and wildlife recreation spending is about the same amount of sales tax revenue received by the Department of Conservation from the one eighth of one percent Conservation Sales Tax.
- The Department receives no general revenue from the state.
- The Department’s budget is less than 1% of the total State budget.
- There are 12.5 million hunters, 30 million anglers, and 71.1 million wildlife watchers in the United States.¹
- In 2006, 2.5 million residents and nonresidents, aged 16 years and older, participated in fishing, hunting, or wildlife-associated recreation in Missouri.¹
- There are more than 1.1 million anglers, 600,000 hunters, and 2.2 million wildlife watchers in Missouri.¹
- Missouri is ranked 5th in the nation for number of resident hunters and 10th in the nation for number of resident anglers.¹
- Over one fourth of tourism dollars in Missouri are spent on forest, fish, and wildlife recreation.^{1,2}
- Most Missourians (91%) report they are interested in Missouri’s forests, fish, and wildlife.³
- Ninety-three percent of land in Missouri is privately owned; the Department owns less than two-percent of the land in Missouri.

¹ 2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

² Missouri Department of Economic Development.

³ 2009 Conservation Monitor Survey conducted by The Gallop Organization.

Significant Accomplishments of the Department

1. Restoring a wide variety of plants, animals, and habitats in Missouri. Many of these were nearly eliminated from the state.
2. Providing management on nearly one million acres for forest, fish, and wildlife habitat and fishing, hunting, and wildlife-related recreation opportunities to over 2.9 million participants each year.
3. Managed 940 impoundments and stream areas for public fishing.
4. Training over 1.2 million individuals in hunter safety.
5. Restoring the health of Missouri's forests by promoting stewardship, preventing uncontrolled burning, and distributing three million tree seedlings each year.
6. Providing a statewide system of interpretive centers and facilities where over one million visitors experience nature each year.
7. Providing information, educational programs, and materials to students, adults, and schools to sustain and nourish Missourians' connection to nature and the outdoors.
8. Providing technical and financial assistance to individuals, farmers, private landowners, partners, communities, and counties for habitat management practices that benefit forest, fish, and wildlife resources.
9. Providing conservation law enforcement in every county in Missouri.
10. Enhancing the economy of communities and counties through fire department training and assistance, payments on conservation lands and forest lands in lieu of property taxes, and payments to assist with road maintenance. Since 1980, more than \$16.4 million has been paid to Missouri counties in lieu of taxes.

Did You Know?

- To find local Department contacts (Conservation agent, fisheries management biologist, forester, natural history biologist, wildlife management biologist, private land conservationist, conservation education consultant, or outdoor skills specialist) go to <http://mdc.mo.gov/contact-us>.
- All teachers can order free conservation educational materials from the public website <http://mdc.mo.gov/education> or by directly going to the pdf link: <http://mdc.mo.gov/education/other-classroom-resources>.
- *The Wildlife Code* has a number of permit privileges for landowners, youth, those over 65, members of the armed forces, and those with disabilities.
- The Department receives none of the revenue generated from enforcement violations; the revenue goes to the school system in the county in which the offense occurs. Any court costs stay with the county government.
- Deer and turkey harvest data for each county in Missouri can be found on the public website. This data comes from the Telecheck system, and is updated six times an hour during hunting season. <http://mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping>
- The first issue of the Missouri Conservationist was distributed on July 1, 1938. The first page described it as an “experiment.” The first issue ran 10,000 copies, and a subscription cost 25 cents/year. Now, over 500,000 Missouri households receive the magazine for free, and there are over 13,000 out-of-state and over 200 out-of-country subscriptions (\$7/year and \$10/year, respectively).
- *Xplor* began in February 2010. It is mailed out bi-monthly in February, April, June, August, October, and December. There are over 132,000 *Xplor* subscribers in Missouri, 1,800 out-of-state, and 35 internationally. The grand total of all copies printed and mailed for *Xplor* was 186,701.
- In Missouri, there are 63 state endangered species; 1,060 Missouri Species of Conservation Concern; 22 federally endangered species; 12 federally threatened species, and four species with federally designated critical habitat (Niangua darter, Indiana bat, Tumbling Creek cavesnail, and Hine’s emerald dragonfly).



Mission, Vision, Goals, Focus Areas, and Values

Mission

To protect and manage the forest, fish, and wildlife resources of the state; to facilitate and provide opportunity for all citizens to use, enjoy, and learn about these resources.

Vision

The Department shall be a forward looking agency, implementing solid core values ensuring integrity and trust, using adaptive learning and creative thinking, embracing technology, and providing superior public service to be the national leader in forest, fish, and wildlife management proactively advancing our mission through understanding natural resource and social landscapes.

Goals

- Ensure healthy and sustainable forest, fish, and wildlife resources throughout the state.
- Manage lands held in public trust and associated infrastructure to ensure continued benefit to citizens and to forest, fish, and wildlife resources.
- Ensure sound financial accountability and transparency in all areas of operation.
- Provide opportunities for active citizen involvement in services and conservation education in both rural and urban areas.
- Engage partners at all levels (individual, community, county, state, federal) to enhance natural resources and effective delivery of conservation services.

Priority/Focus within All Operational Areas

- Increase communication and education within and outside the agency.
- Boldly advance research and management.
- Increase citizen involvement and partnerships.
- Grow quality staff.

Values/Behaviors of Employees

- Excellent public service is essential—we work to deliver more than is expected.
- All citizens are important—we treat citizens the way we would want to be treated.
- Missourians are partners to achieve conservation success—we communicate openly and look for ways to make it easier to partner.
- Fairness, objectivity, sound science, integrity, and accountability guide actions—we know conservation best, value each other's time, strive to work at the speed of business not the speed of government, and are transparent.
- Employees are the Department's most important asset—we all work to advance conservation by being results driven, working as a team, serving as ambassadors for conservation, and living out the conservation ethic through our actions.

Organization Chart



Awards

Citizens or employees of conservation-related agencies who have performed outstanding acts or whose dedicated service over an extended time have produced major progress in forestry, fisheries, or wildlife conservation in Missouri can be nominated for the Master Conservationist Award or the Conservation Hall of Fame. Anyone can submit a nomination to the Director's office, which should include a statement describing the nominee's accomplishments and a brief biography.

Master Conservationist Award

- Is the Conservation Commission's highest honor, recognizing outstanding living or deceased individuals.
- The Commission established the award in 1941 to recognize substantial and lasting contributions to fisheries, forestry, or wildlife conservation.
- A total of 59 people have received this award as of 2011.

Induction into the Conservation Hall of Fame

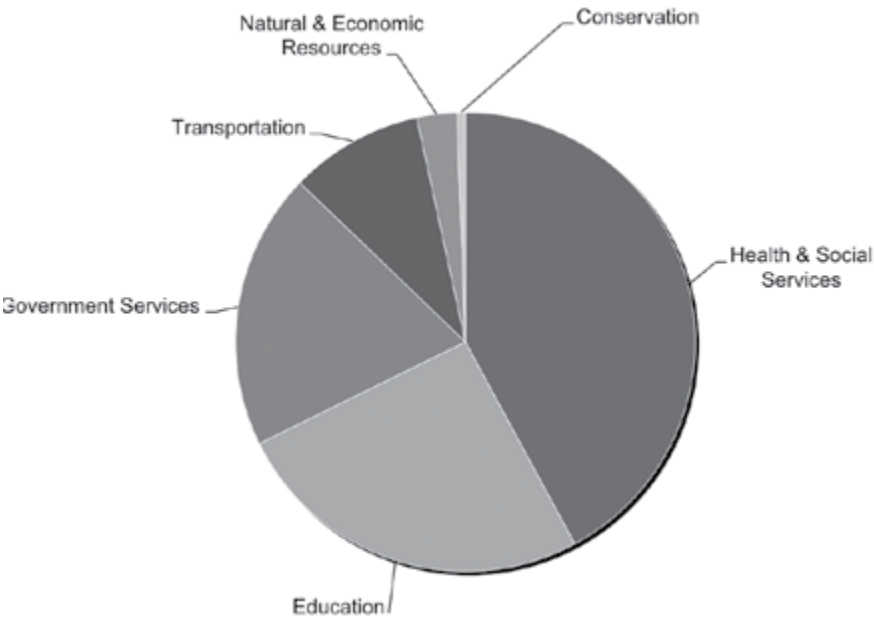
- Induction occurs posthumously.
- A committee of two current Department employees and two retired Department employees, who are appointed by the Director, along with the president and executive director of the Conservation Federation of Missouri screen nominees.
- A total of 37 people have received this honor as of 2011.
- Conservation Commissioners and Directors are not eligible for the Conservation Hall of Fame, but can be given the Master Conservationist award.

Budgets and Finances

Budget of the State of Missouri- Fiscal Year 2012

<i>Total 2012 State Budget</i>	<i>\$24,952,863,105</i>
<i>Health & Social Services.....</i>	<i>42.1%</i>
<i>Education.....</i>	<i>25.6%</i>
<i>Government Services.....</i>	<i>19.5%</i>
<i>Transportation</i>	<i>9.4%</i>
<i>Natural & Economic Resources</i>	<i>2.8%</i>
<i>Conservation.....</i>	<i>0.6%</i>

The Department represents less than 1% of the total state budget and does not receive any general revenue from the state of Missouri.



Actual Receipts and Disbursements of the Department-
Fiscal Year 2012

Receipts

Conservation Sales Tax.....	\$100,566,000 (59.3%)
Permit Sales.....	\$32,850,045 (19.4%)
Federal Reimbursements.	\$25,141,633 (14.8%)
Sales and Rentals.....	\$7,480,677 (4.4%)
Other Sources.....	\$3,320,018 (1.9%)
Interest.....	\$308,776 (0.21%)
Total	\$169,667,149

Disbursements

County Assistance Payments	0.91%
Capital Improvements	11.07%
Fisheries.....	7.81%
Forestry	9.88%
Wildlife	11.18%
Outreach & Education	9.41%
Private Land Services	4.46%
Protection	8.88%
Resource Science.....	6.71%
Regional Public Contact Offices.....	1.67%
Administrative Services & Human Resources.....	8.23%
Design & Development.....	6.71%
Administration.....	0.99%
Information Management & Technology	6.85%
Department wide Replacement Vehicles	3.71%
Human Resources	1.53%

Annual reports of the previous fiscal year’s budgets are published in January issues of the Missouri Conservationist. Archived issues can be found online at <http://mdc.mo.gov/conmag/archive>.

Sales Tax

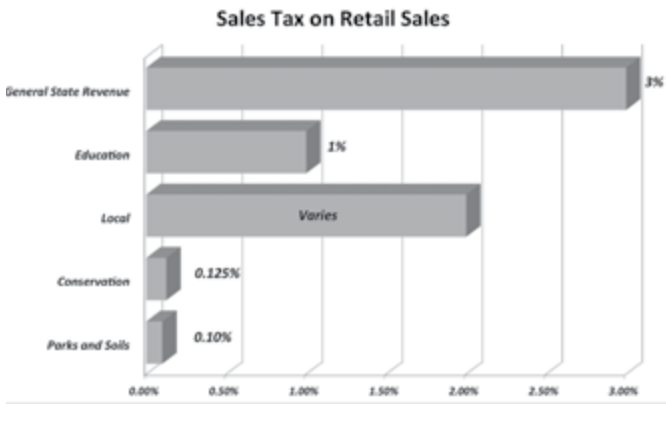
- Missouri’s state sales tax is imposed on the purchase price of tangible personal property or taxable service sold at retail.
- As of 2012, the state sales tax rate was 4.225%.
 - General Revenue- 3.0%
 - Education- 1.0%
 - Conservation- 0.125%
 - Parks/Soils- 0.10%
- Cities and counties often impose a local sales tax. Special taxing districts (such as fire districts) may also impose additional sales taxes. These percents vary by location.
- No money from the state’s general revenue goes toward conservation.
- Of the eight surrounding states, Missouri has the lowest state sales tax rate. The following table summarizes the sales tax rates of these states. (These rates do not reflect any additional local sales taxes or special tax district rates).

State	State Sales Tax ¹
Tennessee.....	7%
Kansas.....	6.3%
Illinois.....	6.25%
Arkansas	6%
Iowa	6%
Kentucky.....	6%
Nebraska.....	5.5%
Oklahoma.....	4.5%
Missouri.....	4.225%

¹Tax Foundation, data as of January 1, 2012

- No general state revenue is collected on food purchases in Missouri. The graphs below show the difference in general purchases versus food purchases in Missouri.

For a full list of items exempt from all Missouri state sales taxes, see Chapter 144 of the Missouri Revised Statutes. Exemptions are listed in several sections; the majority of exemptions are listed in RSMo 144.030. <http://www.moga.mo.gov/statutes/c144.htm>



Conservation Sales Tax

- The Conservation Sales Tax is one eighth of 1% of every taxable sale. For every \$8 spent on taxable items, one penny goes to conservation.
- In fiscal year 2012, the Department received \$100,566,000 as a result of the Conservation Sales Tax. This money made up 61.7% of the year's total expenditures.
- The amount of state sales tax revenue generated from fish and wildlife recreation and the forest products industry is about the same as the sales tax revenue received by MDC from the Conservation Sales Tax. Conservation pays its way in Missouri.

- Conservation represents less than 1% of the total state budget.
- No money from the state's general revenue goes to the Department of Conservation.
- Every Missourian pays just \$12.50 in Conservation Sales Tax for every \$10,000 they spend on taxable goods.
- The Department's two largest revenue sources — the amount of money received from the Conservation Sales Tax and permit prices— have not kept pace with inflation in recent years.
- A dedicated sales tax provides consistent funding for the long-term efforts required for the conservation of forest, fish, and wildlife. You cannot measure conservation success even in decades, since it is a long-term effort.
- History: The Conservation Sales Tax came about from a petition to put a constitutional amendment, Amendment 1, on the ballot. The amendment called for a one eighth of 1% (0.125%) sales tax to fund the proposed strategic plan, Design for Conservation. The 1975 petition garnered 208,000 signatures of support, more than double the minimum required to place the proposed amendment on the ballot.
- Article IV: Section 43 of the Constitution of the State of Missouri, added in 1976 as a result of the vote, outlines the Conservation Sales Tax and its intended uses.
- Section 43 was amended in 1980. Missourians voted to allow the Department to make payments in lieu of taxes for Department lands (purchased after July 1, 1977), and forest crop land payments, using the Conservation Sales Tax funds.
- For more information on conservation related sections of the state constitution (Article IV: Sections 40-46), see the chapter entitled "Constitution of Missouri related to the Missouri Department of Conservation." The official constitutional language can be found online at www.moga.mo.gov/const/t04.htm.
- The vote in November of 1976 passed Amendment 1, giving adequate funding for the implementation of Design for Conservation. The following map shows the voting results by county.



Comprehensive Conservation Strategy

The Comprehensive Wildlife Strategy was developed to provide direction for habitat conservation in Missouri. This statewide assessment became an important tool to bring additional federal funding to Missouri, particularly State Wildlife Grants. The Department has also developed the Forest Action Plan, to promote healthy forest and woodland landscapes, and identified Watershed Priorities, to describe conservation priorities at the watershed scale. Each of these assessments has been developed with conservation partners and citizen representatives.

The purpose of these assessments is to help Missourians identify priority places for conserving species and their habitats. The Department of Conservation has launched an ambitious effort to purposefully integrate these landscape-level assessments into a common blueprint for conservation action. We will use an explicit conservation planning process that builds on these existing assessments.

Integrated conservation planning provides context for proposed conservation actions, large and small, and makes it possible to establish priorities. There are two important outcomes from comprehensive conservation planning: a conservation community that is well informed about the complex and difficult challenges facing fish, forest, and wildlife resources on the modern landscape, and common blueprint of priority conservation geographies.

Conserving plants, animals, and their habitats remains an important goal of the Department. A comprehensive conservation strategy is dynamic, and becomes a continuous dialogue for habitat conservation that the Department, with citizen involvement from the broad conservation community, administers together.

Conservation Commission

The Conservation Commission is vested by the state constitution with “the control, management, restoration, conservation and regulation of the bird, fish, game, forestry and all wildlife resources of the state, including hatcheries, sanctuaries, refuges, reservations and all other property owned, acquired or used for such purposes and the acquisition and establishment thereof, and the administration of all laws pertaining thereto.” (From Article IV: Section 40(a) of the Missouri Constitution.)

The Commission is made up of four people (no more than two from the same political party) who are appointed for 6-year unpaid terms by the governor.

Commissioners



Don C. Bedell (R)
Sikeston
Term expires 07/01/2015



James T. Blair, IV (R)
St. Louis
Term expires 07/01/2017



Don R. Johnson (D)
Festus
Term expires 07/01/2013



Becky L. Plattner (D)
Grand Pass
Term expires 07/01/2013

Short biographies of the current Commissioners can be found online at <http://mdc.mo.gov/about-us/get-know-us/leaders-and-organizational-structure/meet-conservation-commission>.

Duties of the Commission

- appoints a conservation director who, in turn, appoints all employees (see Article IV: Section 42)
- serves as the Department's policy maker
- approves *Wildlife Code* regulations
- strategic planning
- budget development and major expenditure decisions

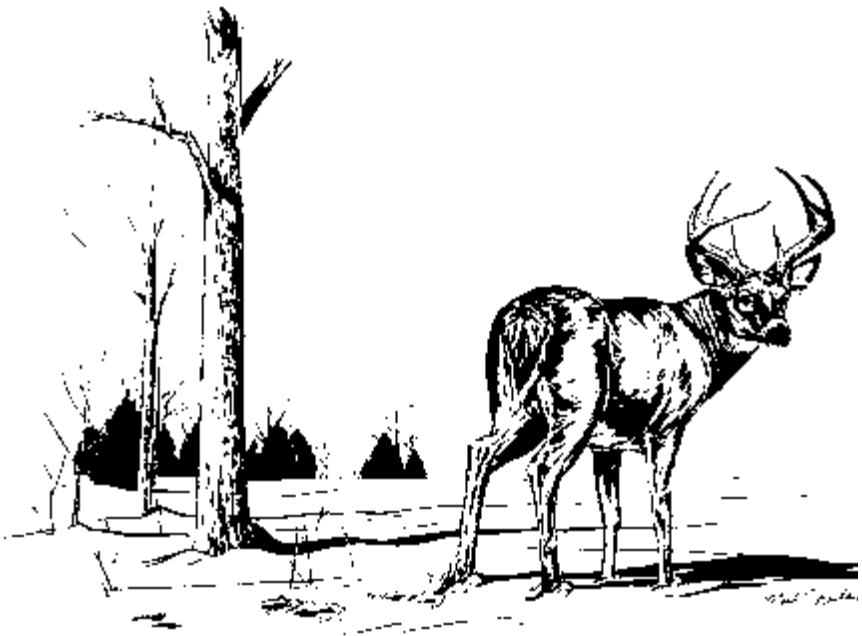
For more information on the duties of the Conservation Commission as outlined in the state constitution, see the "Constitution of Missouri related to the Missouri Department of Conservation" section.

Formation of the Commission

- In the early 1930s, sportsmen began to protest that the deer population was estimated at not more than 2,000 animals, with perhaps 3,500 turkeys scattered across 45 counties, and that fees from hunting permit sales were being used for projects other than wildlife habitat preservation and management.
- In 1935, a group of concerned citizens formed what is now the Conservation Federation of Missouri and drafted a constitutional amendment to form a commission to restore Missouri's wildlife and forests. The amendment was drafted to include the interests of all citizens, and followed a philosophy that it should concern itself with songbirds as well as game creatures, should embrace forestry, and that they would need broad support if their efforts were to succeed.
- The Conservation Federation of Missouri decided on a constitutional amendment, which would be voted on by the public, to delineate the commission's make-up and duties because a law could be repealed and a legislative amendment had the potential to be modified through the legislative process.
- In 1936, the people of Missouri, through the initiative petition process, placed it on the ballot and passed language that would create a non-political Conservation Commission with broad authority. The vote on Amendment 4, held on November 3, 1936, was 879,213 to 351,962 in favor of the amendment. See the map on the next page for voting results by county.

Meetings of the Conservation Commission

- The Commission meets regularly throughout the state. The Commission meeting schedule can be found online at <http://mdc.mo.gov/about-us/get-know-us/leaders-and-organizational-structure/conservation-meetings-and-actions>.
- Meetings are open to the public.
- Persons wishing to be placed on the meeting agenda must send a written or faxed request to the Director at least 10 working days before the meeting date.
- Send requests to:
Director Robert L. Ziehmer
Missouri Department of Conservation
P.O. Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180
FAX (573) 751-4467



Constitution of Missouri Related to the Department

The organization of the Department of Conservation is outlined in Article IV: The Executive Department, Sections 40-46 of the Missouri Constitution.

40(a) Conservation commission, members, qualifications, terms, how appointed— duties of commission—expenses of members.
(Adopted 1936, amended 1972)

40(b) Incumbent members.

41 Acquisition of property—eminent domain.

42 Director of conservation and personnel of commission.

43(a) Sales tax, use for conservation purposes. (Adopted 1976)

43(b) Use of revenue and funds of conservation commission.
(Adopted 1976, amended 1980)

43(c) Effective date—self-enforceability. (Adopted 1976)

44 Self-enforceability—enabling clause—repealing clause.

45 Rules and regulations—filing—review.

46 Distribution of rules and regulations.

- Sections 40-42 were added in 1936 and created the Conservation Commission and the Department of Conservation, and outlines the organization, duties, and privileges of each.
- Section 40(a): “The control, management, restoration, conservation and regulation of the bird, fish, game, forestry and all wildlife resources ...of the state, including hatcheries, sanctuaries, refuges, reservations and all other property owned, acquired or used for such purposes and the acquisition and establishment thereof, and the administration of all laws pertaining thereto, shall be vested in a conservation commission consisting of four members appointed by the governor, by and with the advice and consent of the senate, not more than two of whom shall be of the same political party. The members shall have knowledge of and interest in wildlife conservation. The members shall hold office for terms of six years beginning on the first day of July of consecutive odd years. Two of the terms shall be concurrent; one shall begin two years before and one two years after the concurrent terms. If the governor fails to fill a vacancy

within thirty days, the remaining members shall fill the vacancy for the unexpired term. The members shall receive no salary or other compensation for their services as members, but shall receive their necessary traveling and other expenses incurred while actually engaged in the discharge of their official duties.”

- Section 42: “The commission shall appoint a director of conservation who, with its approval, shall appoint the assistants and other employees deemed necessary by the commission. The commission shall fix the qualifications and salaries of the director and all appointees and employees, and none of its members shall be an appointee or employee.”
- Section 43, adopted in 1976, outlines the conservation sales tax and its intended uses, which are conservation efforts and payments to counties in lieu of property taxes.
- Section 44 states that any law that goes against what is outlined in sections 40-43 does not apply.
- Section 45 states that all Commission rulings will take 10 days to go into effect, and any rulings affecting private rights will be subject to judicial review.
- Section 46 states that the Commission must supply printed copies of all rules and regulations that it passes to anyone who requests it.

The official wording of Article IV Sections 40-46 can be found online at www.moga.mo.gov/const/t04.htm.

The organization of the Department is outlined in the *Code of State Regulations*: 3 CSR 10-1.010 Organization and Methods of Operation. This is chapter 1 of *The Wildlife Code of Missouri* (www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/3csr.asp).



Contacts for the Public

To find local Department contacts (Conservation agent, fisheries management biologist, wildlife biologist, forester, natural history biologist, private land conservationist, education consultant, or outdoor skills specialist) go to <http://mdc.mo.gov/contact-us>.

Endangered Species

- For information about a state listed species, contact the Endangered Species Coordinator at (573) 522-4115 x3151 or go to <http://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/field-guide/endangered-species>.
- To obtain a permit to collect a Missouri Species of Conservation Concern or other wildlife, contact (573) 522-4115 x3574.
- For information about federally listed endangered and threatened species, contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Columbia Ecological Services Office at (573) 234-2132 or go to www.fws.gov/Midwest/Endangered/lists/missouri-spp.html. For MDC internal request, contact the Wildlife Division at (573) 522-4115 x 3151.
- For general information on species and communities of conservation concern, tracked by the Natural Heritage Program contact the Resource Science Division at (573) 522-4115 x3191.
- If contacted by non-Department developer for a Natural Heritage Review, contact the Resource Science Division at (573) 522-4115 x3182.

Fish Kills

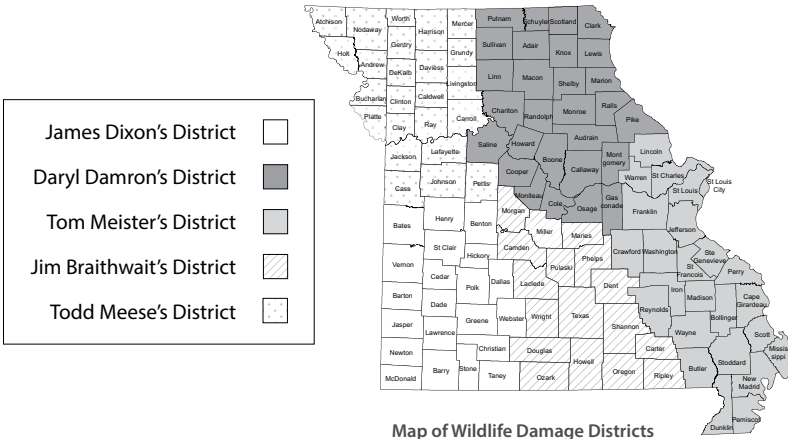
- Fish kills, diseased fish, or fish with high numbers of parasites may be an indication of a localized environmental problem.
- To report a fish kill during working hours, weekends, and holidays, contact DNR Emergency Environmental Response at (573) 634-2436.

Media Contacts

A roster of Department media contacts can be found on the public website at <http://mdc.mo.gov/newsroom>.

Nuisance Wildlife

- The first point of contact for dealing with nuisance wildlife is the local conservation agent. To find the agent's name and phone number, call (573) 751-4115 or go to <http://mdc.mo.gov/regional-contacts>. If the agent cannot find a solution, he or she will notify the area's wildlife damage biologist.



Wildlife Damage Biologists

Rex Martensen
 Program Supervisor
 PO Box 180
 Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180
 (573) 522-4115 x 3147 - office
 (573) 301-8045 - cell

Daryl Damron
 108 Sappington
 Columbia, MO 64203-1660
 (573) 514-0076 - office
 (816) 390-7512 - cell

Todd Meese
 Burr Oak Nature Center
 1401 NW Park Road
 Blue Springs, MO 64015-7727
 (816) 655-6263 x 239 - office

Jim Braithwait
 22834 State Road A
 Richland, MO 65556
 (573) 774-3490 - office
 (573) 528-3530 - cell

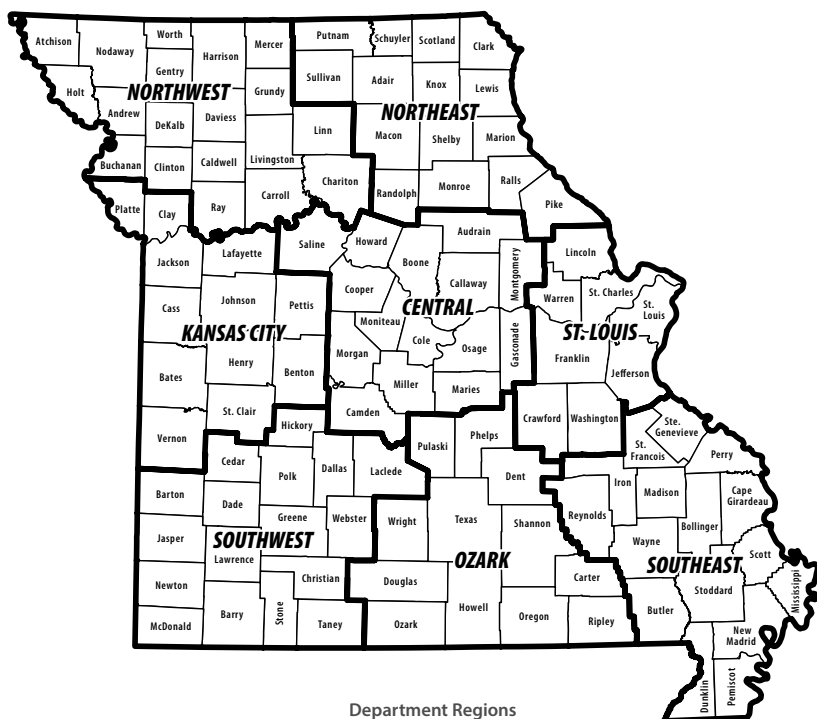
James Dixon
 5627 S Newton Avenue
 Springfield, MO 65810
 (417) 380-4431 - cell

Tom Meister
 7061 Highway 47
 Union, MO 63084
 (314) 223-9838 - cell

Scott McWilliams
 4007 County Road 6920
 West Plains, MO 65775
 (417) 256-6470 - office
 (417) 331-0180 - cell

- *The Wildlife Code of Missouri* states the parameters for out of season lethal hunting and trapping methods in regulation 3 CSR 10-4.130 Owner May Protect Property.
- Landowners with problems involving insects should contact their local University Extension office (<http://extension.missouri.edu>).
- Landowners with problems involving federally endangered or threatened species, migratory birds, or other federally protected species should contact the USDA Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service at (573) 449-3033.





Offices

Northwest

701 James McCarthy Dr.
St. Joseph, MO 64507
(816) 271-3100

Southwest

2630 N. Mayfair
Springfield, MO 65803
(417) 895-6880

St. Louis

2360 Highway D
St. Charles, MO 63304
(636) 441-4554

Northeast

3500 S. Baltimore
Kirksville, MO 63501
(660) 785-2420

Central

3500 East Gans Rd.
Columbia, MO 65201
(573) 815-7900

Southwest

2302 Country Park Dr.
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 290-5730

Kansas City

12405 SE Ranson Rd.
Lee's Summit, MO 64082
(816) 622-0900

Ozark

551 Joe Jones Blvd.
West Plains, MO 65775
(417) 256-7161

Administrative Office

P.O. Box 180 (zip 65102)
2901 W. Truman Blvd.
Jefferson City, MO 65109
(573) 751-4115

Design for Conservation: A Plan to Increase Efforts

The Design for Conservation, released in 1970, was a long-reaching strategic plan for conservation in Missouri. In it, the Department pledged to buy land for recreation, forestry, and the protection of critical habitats for rare or endangered species. Design also called for increased services to the public in the areas of wildlife and forest conservation, for research into forestry techniques and wildlife management, and for locating a system of Conservation Interpretation Centers on Department lands. Funding for the increased conservation efforts proposed in Design was achieved when the sales tax amendment passed in 1976 and funds became available in 1977.

Subsequent strategic plans modified the vision of Design for Conservation to reflect the changing social values, demands, and other pressures on the forest, fish, and wildlife resources of the state.



Directors

- The 1936 constitutional amendment that called for the formation of the Conservation Commission also stated that the Commission would appoint a Director of the Department of Conservation.
- Duties of the Director are defined in the Missouri Constitution, Article IV, Section 42:
 - “The commission shall appoint a director of conservation who, with its approval, shall appoint the assistants and other employees deemed necessary by the commission. The commission shall fix the qualifications and salaries of the director and all appointees and employees, and none of its members shall be an appointee or employee.”
- There have been eight Directors of the Department of Conservation:
 - Irwin T. Bode; 1937 - 1957
 - William Towell; 1957 - 1966
 - Carl Noren; 1967 - 1979
 - Larry Gale; 1979 - 1988
 - Jerry Presley; 1988 - 1997
 - Jerry Conley; 1997 - 2002
 - John Hoskins; 2002 - 2010
 - Robert L. Ziehmer; 2010 - Present



Director's Office

The Director's Office consists of the Director, the Deputy Directors, an Assistant to the Director, Administrative Support, the Custodian of Records, the Federal Aid Unit, the General and Deputy Counsels, the Internal Auditor, the Policy Coordination Unit, and the Realty Services Unit.

Director

Robert L. Ziehmer, appointed by the Conservation Commission, directs all programs and activities of the Department of Conservation and directly oversees two Deputy Directors, an Assistant to the Director, the General Counsel, an Internal Auditor and the Human Resources Division Chief.

Deputy Directors

Tim Ripperger, Deputy Director of Administration and Communication, is responsible for the Administrative Services Division, Design and Development Division, Outreach & Education Division, Policy Coordination Unit, and the Federal Aid Unit. Additionally, Ripperger serves the Director's Office as federal liaison for legislative matters and assists in state legislative matters. He serves as the chair of the Capital Improvements and Information Technology Committee and the chair of the Realty Committee.

Tom Draper, Deputy Director of Resource Management, is responsible for the Divisions of Fisheries, Forestry, Private Land Services, Protection, Resource Science and Wildlife. Draper additionally serves as the chair of the Regulation Committee, the committee that recommends statewide regulations for the Wildlife Code of Missouri to the Conservation Commission.

Assistant to the Director

Aaron Jeffries is the Department's Governmental Liaison with members of the General Assembly and Executive Branch. He also serves as the Department's contact for Missouri Association of Counties and County Commissioners of Missouri. Jeffries provides interagency coordination with various federal, state, and non-governmental interest groups and represents the Director on the Department of Natural Resources' Land Reclamation Commission.

Administrative Support

This unit provides administrative support to the Director, Deputy Directors, Assistant to the Director, Conservation Commission, General and Deputy Counsel, Custodian of Records, the Hearing Officer, and the Realty Services staff.

Custodian of Records

The Custodian of Records addresses and responds to submitted requests for the Department's records under the Sunshine Law.

Federal Aid

This unit coordinates and administers the Department's federal aid grants, provides technical assistance to project leaders with regard to grant development, review and approval, policy and compliance assurance, and audit coordination.

General Counsel

The General Counsel unit oversees all aspects of Department real estate transactions, including acquisitions, disposals, trades, leases, easements, and donations; provides legal counsel and represents the Department in litigation.

Internal Audit

The Internal Auditor provides independent, objective assurance, and consulting services designed to add value and improve the Department's operations. The scope of work of the Internal Auditor is to determine whether the Department's accountability, internal controls, and governance processes are adequate and functioning as intended.

Policy Coordination

The Policy Coordination Unit serves the Director's Office and Department staff by managing Department, statewide, and interagency issues. Examples include: environmental and resource management policy; environmental reviews; intra- and inter-state coordination associated

with the Mississippi, Missouri, and White Rivers; multi-agency resource issues; department resource policies, procedures, and strategic planning; coordinating public involvement activities; and applying human dimensions information to Department issues, including social and economic facts, analyses, and citizen input opportunities.

Realty Services

The Realty Services Unit is responsible for handling all aspects of Department real estate matters including acquisitions (purchases and donations), disposals, land trades, easements, boundary issues, leases, and distributing annual in-lieu tax payments to Missouri counties.



Divisions

The Missouri Department of Conservation has 10 Divisions.

Administrative Services

The Administrative Services Division provides administrative support by way of two sections and four units: Financial Services Section, Information Technology Services Section, Permit Services Unit, Fleet and Property Services Unit, Flight Services Unit, and General Services Unit. The Division coordinates and administers all budget, revenue, and finance functions; provides technology planning, systems research and design, customer technical support; voice and data network operations; distributes and manages hunting, fishing, commercial and landowner permits; manages the equipment fleet and aviation services; maintains the publications distribution center; and oversees the products and media loan service.

Design & Development

The Design and Development Division provides engineering, architectural, and construction services that enhance the Department's resource management efforts. The Division's primary functions are to help maintain the Department's diverse portfolio of infrastructure assets and manage the capital improvements program. Typical projects include wetlands, hatcheries, reservoirs, nature centers, buildings, river and lake accesses, stream improvements, shooting ranges, and engineering studies. Related services include building and ground maintenance, surveying, construction management, and environmental and cultural compliance permitting for construction projects and area development projects.

Fisheries

Fisheries Division manages four warmwater fish hatcheries (for rearing the fish needed to stock public waters, and waters used for special fishing events and aquatic resource education) and five cold-water fish hatcheries (for rearing trout needed to stock public waters and trout parks); administers the Stream Team program; provides fisheries management of public impoundments, rivers and streams; offers technical guidance in stream and lake management to private landowners and other public agencies; oversees

the acquisition and development of public fishing and boat access areas; administers community, agency, and partnership agreements; participates in recovery plans of threatened or endangered aquatic species; and educates and informs the public about aquatic resources through technical and popular written materials, electronic media, presentations to groups, workshops, interviews to journalists, and personal contacts.

Forestry

The Forestry Division ensures the health and sustainability of Missouri's urban and rural forest resource and addresses what people need from that resource. Forestry staff provides technical advice and assistance that includes monitoring of forest health, suppressing wildfire, tree planting recommendations, advice and recommendations for forest improvement, forest inventory and analysis, forest products marketing and utilization, and overall management of the total forest-related resources for its many benefits. Technical assistance is also provided on the care of trees in our cities and towns. The Forestry Division maintains the Department's seedling nursery.

Human Resources

The Human Resources Division provides a full range of services that help the Department attract and retain a diversified, dynamic workforce. Staff assist with recruitment and selection activities; administer salary and benefit programs; oversee a comprehensive group life, medical, accidental death and dismemberment and dependent life insurance program; maintain official employee documents and records; and manage a safety program (including workers' compensation).

Equally important to the Department are other Human Resource Division activities. These include monitoring the department's compliance with employment practices relating to affirmative action, ADA and drug testing; providing employee training and development programs; administering employee assistance and wellness activities; and facilitating the employee disciplinary and grievance process.

Outreach & Education

The Outreach and Education Division helps Missourians of all ages enjoy and understand the value of our plant and animal resources and how to keep them thriving for years to come. Outreach and Education staff

provide hands-on connections with the outdoors through skills classes, educational units, nature center programs, and special events. In addition, they keep people up-to-date about where they can hunt, fish, trap, hike, watch birds, and more so they can make their own conservation connections throughout Missouri. Outreach and Education staff are involved in outreach programs, conservation education, and outdoor skills. Outreach programs staff produce a variety of information tools, including the Department website, *Missouri Conservationist* magazine (<http://www.mdc.mo.gov>), *Xplor* magazine for kids (<http://xplor.mdc.mo.gov>), books, brochures, videos and DVDs, exhibits, news, nature shops, and more. Conservation education staff provide hands-on, place-based units to educators through the Discover Nature Schools program. Nature center staff help Missourians learn more about forest, fish, and wildlife resources and ways to put conservation into practice. Outdoor skills staff work through schools and staffed shooting ranges to provide hunter education and shooting sports opportunities for all Missourians, to provide school-based skills training, and to provide programs and clinics for youth and adults who want to hunt and fish. Conservation education and outdoor skills staff strive to help all Missourians enjoy the outdoors through safe and ethical, nature-based recreation.

Private Land Services

The Private Land Services Division helps Missouri landowners achieve their land use objectives in ways that enhance the conservation of Missouri's natural resources. Private Land Services staff promotes the sound management of forest, fish wildlife, and natural community resources through voluntary participation, information, financial assistance, and partnerships. This includes assistance to landowners to evaluate natural resource and wildlife damage conditions, and recommendations of management and improvement techniques. They establish partnerships with other state and federal agencies, commodity groups, agri-businesses, and conservation organizations to develop and achieve common natural resource goals. They strive to encourage a land management ethic among landowners, connect communities with nature, build trust, and heighten understanding of the Department's mission.

Protection

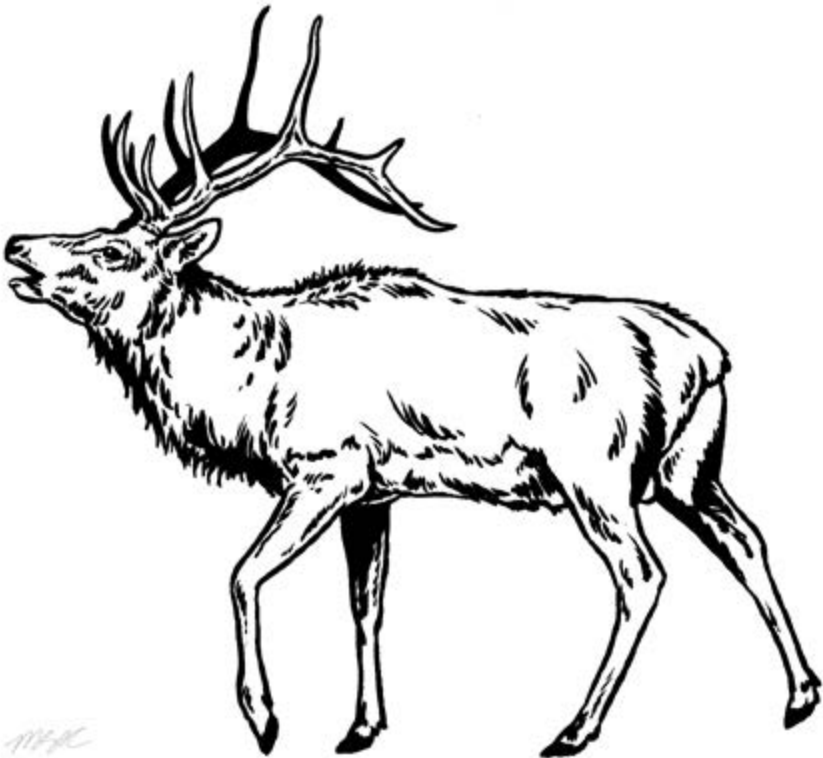
The Protection Division is responsible for enforcement of *The Wildlife Code of Missouri* and related statutes on both private and public lands as well as many other duties. Conservation agents are assigned to each county in Missouri, and represent the Department in a wide variety of programs. Agents administer the hunter education program in their local area. Agents provide conservation information and education through newspaper articles, adult and youth meetings, exhibits, clinics, and radio/television programs. Protection Division personnel provide basic information and materials for fish, wildlife, and forest management to Missouri citizens, and are involved in administering Department landowner assistance programs. In addition, conservation agents routinely make contacts with landowners who have wildlife depredation or nuisance problems, poaching or trespass problems, and a host of other needs. Protection Division cooperates with the Conservation Federation of Missouri in administering Operation Game Thief, Operation Forest Arson, and Share the Harvest programs.

Resource Science

The Resource Science Division ensures integration of population dynamics, habitat relationships, and constituent desires into science-based management and policy for grassland, agricultural, forest, wetland, and aquatic systems. An emphasis on biometrics, GIS/GPS technologies, and database management is required for sound study design, comprehensive analysis, and confident reporting of research and monitoring results. Science services in the form of diagnostics, genetics research, and water quality investigations provide specialized assistance for resource professionals as well as the Missouri public. Assisting resource managers with evaluation of their fish, wildlife, and habitat management efforts also is a priority for the Resource Science Division. Special emphasis on species and communities of concern through surveys, monitoring, and comprehensive databases is dedicated to protecting endangered species, wildlife diversity, and natural community conservation. Training of resource managers through specialized workshops provides skills in taxonomy, field sampling methods, and technical applications. The Division also provides technical support for establishing harvest regulations, conservation planning, and public information through popular and professional publications.

Wildlife

The Wildlife Division is responsible for actively managing habitats on public lands for Missouri citizens to enhance natural communities and improve habitats for plants and animals and Missouri citizens. Accomplishing this objective involves a wide range of programs and activities on public and private land. Administration of hunting programs on public lands and coordination with other agencies help ensure that wildlife and wildlife habitat receive full consideration in all land management activities. The Wildlife Division also provides a number of special services designed to aid people in many aspects of wildlife conservation. These include management advice to individuals and groups interested in wild animals, assistance to alleviate wildlife damage, personal appearances as speakers on wildlife topics, and preparation of publications, reports, regional plans, and replies to inquiries.



Employees

Quick Statistics

As of 2012:

- The Department of Conservation employed 1,410 people.
- The average age of Department employees was 44.
- The average amount of time employees have worked for Department was 12 years.
- Approximately, 34.5% of employees (486 people) were eligible to retire within the next six years (by 2018).
- Currently, 23.2% of Department employees were female (327 people) and 76.8% of employees (1,083 people) were male.

Ethnicity	Total
White	96.17%
Non-White	3.83%
Black	2.62%
American Indian	0.43%
Asian	0.28%
Hispanic	0.43%
Two or more	0.07%
<i>Total</i>	<i>100.00%</i>

- In fiscal year 2012, the total employee retention was 97.1%. Of the turnover, 10 people (0.71% of the workforce) went to work for other organizations/agencies; five people (0.35%) were dismissed; 16 people (1.13%) retired; and 10 people (0.71%) left for other reasons.
- Over recent years, the average voluntary turnover has been about 1.2%.
- The Department of Conservation is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Salaries and Benefits

For the most current information on benefits and compensation, see the Human Resources Policy Manual.

- In fiscal year 2012, the Department paid \$57,571,508 in salaries. That is 34% of the total revenue received by the Department.
- A one-percent raise in salaries for employees translates to an increase of over \$750,000 in funding needed for the Department.



Facilities

- Four trout parks stocked (operated by the Department of Natural Resources and the James Foundation)
- Nine hundred fifty-four lakes managed by the Department
- Five coldwater fish hatcheries
- Four warmwater fish hatcheries
- One tree seedling nursery
- Five Conservation Nature Centers (Blue Springs-Burr Oak Woods, Jefferson City-Runge, Kirkwood-Powder Valley, Springfield, Cape Girardeau)
- Two Education Centers (Kansas City- Anita B. Gorman Discovery Center; Winona-Twin Pines)
- Five staffed shooting range and outdoor education centers
- Sixty-two areas with various unstaffed shooting ranges throughout the state.
- One central administrative office
- Eight regional service centers
- Federal Excess Property Center



Accomplishments in One Year - 2012

This summary of the Annual Report highlights the Missouri Department of Conservation's accomplishments and expenditures from July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012. These accomplishments are based on the Department's five main goals. Not only does this summary highlight the accomplishments of the Department, but it emphasizes that Missourians care about conserving forests, fish, and wildlife; that we work with Missourians and for Missourians to sustain healthy forests, fish, and wildlife; that we help people discover nature; that conservation makes Missouri a great place to hunt and fish; and that conservation pays by enriching our economy and quality of life.

Healthy Forests, Fish, and Wildlife

- Elk Reintroduction

Wild elk returned to Missouri after 150 years. MDC, the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, and the Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries captured elk in Kentucky during December and January (2010–11 and 2011–12). MDC and the Missouri Department of Agriculture developed protocols to ensure the health of livestock and wildlife once elk were released. After health protocols were met, 34 elk were moved to Missouri in 2011 and 35 (plus a newborn calf) in 2012. The elk were kept in a holding facility on Peck Ranch Conservation Area (CA) for about a month to allow acclimation and to complete health protocols. In 2011, all elk were released on Peck Ranch CA. In 2012, some elk were released on Peck Ranch CA while others were moved to a release site on The Nature Conservancy property. Currently, auto routes are open on parts of Peck Ranch CA to allow visitors to view elk.

- Hellbender Restoration

Both Ozark and eastern hellbenders are listed as state endangered, and on November 7, 2011, the Ozark hellbender was added to the federal endangered species list. MDC's Shepherd of the Hills Hatchery and the Ron Goellner Center for Hellbender Conservation at the Saint Louis Zoo are devoted to hellbender propagation. The fall of 2011 was the world's first breeding of a captive Ozark hellbender at the Saint Louis Zoo. About 150 Ozark hellbenders were hatched.

- **Wildlife Code Enforcement**

MDC enforces laws in the Wildlife Code, as well as other state laws for the safe public use of MDC-owned lands. Conservation agents contacted 200,714 hunters and anglers last year to ensure compliance and provide regulation information. During these contacts, agents noted 27,288 resource violations, issued 3,631 written warnings, and made 7,256 arrests.

- **Black Bear Research**

In 2010, MDC, in cooperation with Mississippi State University and with funding from the Federal Aid in Wildlife Restoration Act, began the first Missouri black bear research project. From July 2010 to May 2012, 45 bears were captured and tagged. Of those, 28 were males and 17 were females. Bears that were large enough were fitted with a radio collar. Our population estimate is 108 bears for the southwest portion of study area.

- **National Fish Habitat Initiative**

The National Fish Habitat Partnership has included Table Rock Lake on their 10 waters to watch list. The designation is due to on-going efforts to improve habitat through the National Fish Habitat Initiative and More Fish Campaign. There have been 1,460 brush structures, 104 rock piles, 49 stump fields, 11 rock/ stump combos, and 26 rock fences installed.

- **Chronic Wasting Disease in Missouri**

Chronic wasting disease (CWD) is a fatal disease that affects deer, elk, and other cervids. It was discovered in Missouri in 2010 at a private preserve in Linn County. As part of the MDC's ongoing efforts to monitor the disease, we will continue testing hunter-harvested deer in the CWD containment zone. MDC also is working with area landowners to limit the prevalence and spread of CWD. With the help of hunters, MDC has tested more than 35,000 free-ranging deer for CWD statewide since 2002.

Manage Lands in Public Trust

- **Community Fisheries Assistance**

Through the Community Assistance Program and the Corporate and Agency Partnership Program, MDC enters into agreements (usually 25-year) with cities, counties, state and federal agencies, businesses, foundations, schools, and colleges. Under these agreements, MDC provides fisheries management at lakes and ponds and cooperatively

develops and maintains facilities for anglers at lakes and streams. MDC has agreements with 117 partners for the cooperative management of 168 public lakes, 42 stream-access areas, four lake-access areas, and 10 aquatic education ponds.

- Cold-Water Fish Hatcheries

MDC stocked 1,451,984 trout among five trout parks, 12 stream special management areas, and Lake Taneycomo. Anglers purchased 310,212 daily adult tags, 62,007 daily youth tags, and 88,699 trout fishing permits.

- Warm-Water Fish Hatcheries

In 2011, 6.4 million fish were stocked in public waters. Highlights include: 216,821 hybrid striped bass, 5,346 muskie, 3,222 pallid sturgeon, 3,683 paddlefish, 12,899 advance-sized largemouth bass, 7,803 hybrid sunfish, 177,392 channel catfish, more than five million walleye fry, and more than 1.5 million walleye fingerlings were stocked in Missouri waters.

- State Forest Nursery

The state forest nursery annually grows and distributes about three million seedlings of more than 60 species. The seedlings are planted on public and private land. The nursery filled more than 10,700 orders with more than 21,600 packages of seedlings.

- Forest and Woodland Improvements

We improved forests and woodlands on 49,687 acres of state land. This included thinning young trees on 1,775 acres, eradicating invasive plants on 3,416 acres, post-sale cultural work on 1,421 acres, prescribed fires on 9,756 acres, 114 acres of tree planting, and harvest of 8,578 acres.

- Land Management

MDC conducted habitat management on more than 191,000 acres of public land including: 39,000 acres of wetland, 23,000 acres of woodland/forest/savanna, 80,000 acres of crop land (67,000 acres through permittee farmers and 13,000 acres in food plots), 29,000 acres of grassland/prairie, 19,000 acres of old fields, and 1,000 acres of glade.

- Golden Anniversary Wetlands

MDC is rehabilitating five of our oldest wetland management areas through the Golden Anniversary Wetlands Initiative. Work at Ted Shanks and Montrose conservation areas is complete. Fountain Grove Conservation Area (CA) pump design and installation is underway. Schell Osage CA work

will begin in fiscal year 14. Duck Creek CA construction is about 50 percent complete. A second \$1 million North American Wetland Act grant was awarded to MDC to support the second phase at Duck Creek CA.

- New Office in the Central Region

MDC opened a new Central Regional Office and Conservation Research Center in Columbia. The facility houses 120 employees formerly housed at two facilities, laboratories, a 100-seat conference room, and a lobby where the public can pick up free brochures and obtain hunting and fishing permits. The building incorporates green building concepts.

Sound Financial Accountability

- Internal Audits

MDC employs one internal auditor who performs regular, independent audits to ensure that public funds are expended in a responsible manner. In fiscal year 2012, there were no major findings noted with the business practices reviewed.

- Information Technology

We completed analysis for the Land Tracking System, the Infrastructure Inventory System, and the Enterprise GIS Repository. These systems will significantly improve MDC's ability to manage public land and infrastructure.

Citizen Involvement/Education

- Listened to Missourians

Part of delivering excellent service is listening and understanding what Missourians say about conservation programs and services. In fiscal year 12 there were 52 activities that involved 72,061 people. These included surveys, focus groups, open houses, comments and presentations to the Regulations Committee, and contacts with MDC's ombudsman.

- Find MO Fish Mobile Phone Application

This free mobile application shows a map of Missouri with the locations of public boat ramps to the major lakes, rivers, and streams. The map also shows the location of underwater fish structures MDC placed. With the geo-location feature, anglers can guide their boat to a fish attractor.

- Discover Nature Schools

Discover Nature Schools helps teachers engage students in hands-on, outdoor learning. Thus far, 53 schools taught the primary unit, 403 schools taught the elementary unit, 272 schools taught the middle-school unit, and 110 schools taught the high school unit. Conservation grants supporting Discover Nature Schools totaled \$212,246.

- Technical Assistance to Landowners

MDC served landowners through approximately 71,579 rural and urban contacts, including more than 7,000 on-site visits. Staff answered 5,088 wildlife nuisance or damage assistance requests, including 1,000 on-site visits.

- Private Lake and Stream Management

We responded to 4,974 requests for watershed, floodplain, riparian corridor, stream or lake management information, and/or technical assistance. We made 660 on-site visits. On-site work included 119 fish-population surveys, 14 renovations, and 40 fish-kill investigations. Staff conducted 12 stream or lake management workshops for 298 people. We also coordinated or participated in 28 watershed-management projects.

- 75th Anniversary Celebration

MDC celebrated 75 years of Missouri's unique, citizen-led conservation. The celebration included a half-hour TV program, special events, publications, and Missouri Conservationist magazine articles that will culminate in a book. As part of MDC's 75th Anniversary, we hosted a photo contest. More than 1,880 people submitted almost 13,000 photos in seven categories.

- Peregrine Falcon Web Camera

MDC, Ameren Missouri, and the World Bird Sanctuary provided citizens with a view of peregrine falcons raising chicks in a nesting box at Ameren's Sioux Energy Center in Franklin County. The camera was live for viewing from 7 a.m. until 8 p.m. seven days a week on each partner's website. Viewing was available until the falcon's five young left the nest.

Engage Partners at All Levels

- Wetland Restoration Assistance

Since 1992, MDC has assisted the U.S. Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service in restoring critical wetlands. Over the past two years, Missouri has received about \$43 million to assist landowners in wetland restoration. Missouri has 1,000 easements covering 139,815 acres through the Wetland Reserve Program.

- Stream Teams

Missouri has 3,796 active Stream Teams statewide. Volunteer activities included removing 459 tons of trash, planting 5,254 trees, and hosting 1,228 events.

- Community Tree Care

MDC's Tree Resource Improvement and Maintenance cost-share program provided \$271,306 to fund the 37 best applications. Successful applicants receive 60 or 75 percent of their total project in cost share within specified limits. The applicant provides the remaining balance. Applicants matched the MDC contribution by 46 percent providing \$233,973 in local match.

- Joplin Tornado Assistance

MDC worked with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the State Emergency Management Agency to assess the health and safety risk potential of more than 1,000 trees. Two Tree Resource Improvement and Maintenance grants were provided to the City of Joplin. Four plans for three Joplin parks were completed. Financial assistance was provided to Forest ReLeaf of Missouri to expand their tree nursery to provide trees to Joplin and Duquesne in the coming years. With partial funding from the U.S. Forest Service State and Private Forestry, MDC worked with the City of Joplin to plant more than 1,000 trees, distribute hundreds of trees to homeowners, and coordinate numerous offers of financial assistance, as well as the efforts of up to 400 volunteers.

- Share the Harvest

Conservation agents coordinate and support the Share the Harvest program with the Conservation Federation of Missouri, local charitable organizations, and local meat processors. In 2011, approximately 6,191 hunters donated 317,882 pounds of venison to less-fortunate Missourians.

- Stream Stewardship Trust Fund

The Stream Stewardship Trust Fund is available to restore, enhance, and/or protect streams and their surrounding habitats. The Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation runs the program, and MDC applies for grants. Last year, seven projects costing \$763,896 were approved.

- Volunteer Fire Departments

MDC, in cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service, granted \$371,101 to 185 volunteer fire departments. The grants fund protective clothing, equipment, and training. Equipment was also provided through two federal programs. Through the Federal Excess Property Program we obtained equipment valued at \$427,287. The new Fire Fighter Program obtained equipment valued at \$13,165,721. Since 1951, we have assigned more than \$60 million in equipment to volunteer fire departments.

- Wildfire Suppression

In fiscal year 12, MDC cooperated with fire departments across the state to suppress 3,505 wildfires that consumed 35,141 acres. The main cause of wildfire is the use of fire to dispose of debris.

Fiscal Year 2012 Summary

County Assistance Payments (\$1,498,157) — Paid county levee and drainage district taxes, forest crop land payments, in lieu of real estate taxes, and county aid road trust payments. Since 1980, paid more than \$15.9 million to Missouri counties in lieu of real estate taxes.

Capital Improvements (\$18,008,745) — Constructed, renovated, and repaired fish hatcheries, river accesses, wetlands, shooting ranges, nature centers, and facilities statewide; and acquired land.

Fisheries (\$12,882,551) — Managed sport fish populations, aquatic biodiversity, and aquatic habitats. Managed 1,012 areas for fishing, and assisted 5,734 landowners with stream and lake management. Stocked about 9.1 million fish in public waters.

Forestry – \$18,438,507 Distributed about three million seedlings to 10,700 landowners, provided forestry assistance on more than 52,088 acres of private land and to more than 150 municipalities, managed 438,700 acres of public forest, monitored insect and disease threats, and facilitated development of the state's forest industry.

Wildlife – \$19,099,360 Managed more than 525,000 acres of public land and implemented programs to maintain and restore natural communities and wildlife diversity statewide.

Outreach and Education – \$15,417,635 Nearly 800,000 visited nature centers and shooting ranges, more than 500,000 subscribed to the

Missouri Conservationist, more than 120,000 subscribed to *Xplor*, and more than 5.5 million visited MDC's website. Also provided more than \$200,000 in grants to schools, conservation curriculums for schools, outdoor skills programs, and hunter education.

Private Land Services – \$7,307,532 Made 71,579 rural and urban landowner contacts, affected 237,290 acres through technical assistance to landowners, provided habitat management workshops to 41,000, assisted 5,088 landowners with nuisance wildlife, and assisted with the formation of 18 landowner cooperatives.

Protection – \$15,245,000 Provided wildlife law enforcement in every county as well as resource management, information, education, and public service. Conservation agents contacted 718,796 people. Coordinated the Share the Harvest program. Conservation agents, along with 1,136 volunteers, conducted 905 hunter education classes, certifying 21,975 students.

Resource Science – \$10,985,166 Monitored the status of Missouri's fish, forests, plants, and wildlife; recommended conservation actions; evaluated these actions; and reported the results. Contacted tens of thousands of Missourians to determine their outdoor activities and opinions about conservation programs.

Regional Public Contact Offices – \$2,720,688 Provided regional offices to directly serve Missourians.

Administrative Services – \$24,722,804 Paid for hunting and fishing permit sale systems, fiscal services, purchasing, distribution center, and sign shop. Provided agency-wide postage and printing services, fleet management, vehicle and equipment maintenance, and other agency appropriations. Includes information management and technology that supported all computers, software, telephones, and other telecommunications systems.

Human Resources – \$2,499,008 Provided the services to recruit, employ, and train employees.

Design and Development – \$12,464,762 Provided engineering, architectural design, cultural resource review, surveying, and construction, as well as maintenance of conservation areas and facilities.

Administration – \$1,620,110 Provided audits, legal counsel, strategic planning coordination, federal reimbursement administration, environmental policy development, public involvement, and river basin coordination.

County Aid Road Trust (CART) Program Totals for Fiscal Year 2012

County	Payment	County	Payment
Atchison	\$6,202	Laclede	\$12,870
Barton	\$2,205	Lincoln	\$9,660
Benton	\$8,815	Linn.....	\$2,160
Bollinger.....	\$33,443	Livingston	\$14,570
Boone.....	\$9,694	Madison.....	\$2,712
Butler	\$800	Miller	\$14,980
Caldwell	\$749	Moniteau	\$18,587
Carroll	\$47,651	Morgan	\$679
Carter	\$1,528	Ozark.....	\$7,504
Chariton.....	\$9,363	Pettis	\$1,697
Cooper	\$20,535	Reynolds.....	\$500
Dade.....	\$5,451	Scotland	\$26,683
Dallas	\$12,925	Shelby	\$4,463
Dent.....	\$10,898	St Clair.....	\$5,063
Greene	\$1,295	Sullivan	\$39,600
Hickory	\$16,343	Vernon	\$6,075
Holt.....	\$12,190	Worth	\$5,024
Howard	\$20,870		
		TOTAL.....	\$393,781

**County In-Lieu-Of-Tax Payments, Forest Crop Land Payments,
And Payments to Levee & Drainage Districts for Fiscal Year 2011**

County	Payment	Dade.....	\$2,758.50
Adair.....	\$5,631.89	Dallas	\$6,857.29
Andrew	\$16,557.31	Daviess.....	\$824.59
Atchison	\$4,463.38	De Kalb	\$6,491.62
Audrain.....	\$3,426.77	Douglas	\$1,543.89
Barry.....	\$2,388.40	Dunklin.....	\$10,017.25
Barton	\$11,749.07	Franklin.....	\$10,343.84
Bates.....	\$12,160.28	Gasconade	\$1,531.44
Benton	\$6,341.51	Gentry	\$3,275.56
Bollinger	\$10,153.47	Greene	\$5,936.40
Boone.....	\$28,361.36	Grundy.....	\$134.53
Buchanan	\$4,404.38	Harrison	\$6,764.79
Butler	\$18,823.21	Henry	\$2,241.11
Caldwell.....	\$2,327.61	Hickory	\$1,852.53
Callaway	\$9,855.01	Holt.....	\$38,904.28
Camden	\$2,855.16	Howard	\$21,579.86
Cape Girardeau	\$3,532.09	Howell	\$5,505.22
Carroll	\$4,331.96	Iron	\$6,136.95
Carter	\$19,117.42	Jackson	\$15,206.77
Cass	\$12,309.55	Jasper.....	\$6.97
Cedar.....	\$4,370.98	Jefferson.....	\$12,229.31
Chariton.....	\$876.31	Johnson	\$4,431.90
Christian	\$2,389.16	Knox	\$1,336.62
Clark	\$8,791.35	Laclede	\$2,107.58
Clay.....	\$3,997.16	Lafayette	\$5,164.53
Clinton	\$538.11	Lawrence	\$7,423.60
Cole	\$27,604.37	Lewis	\$7,006.42
Cooper	\$8,630.01	Lincoln	\$36,268.06
Crawford.....	\$8,706.91	Linn.....	\$8,080.98

**County In-Lieu-Of-Tax Payments, Forest Crop Land Payments,
And Payments to Levee & Drainage Districts for Fiscal Year 2011
(cont'd)**

Livingston	\$11,283.97	Randolph.....	\$2,064.67
Macon	\$5,011.13	Ray	\$7,852.40
Madison.....	\$3,791.69	Reynolds.....	\$29,072.30
Maries	\$1,583.02	Ripley	\$6,899.44
Marion	\$1,814.15	Saline	\$25,759.73
McDonald.....	\$2,187.07	Schuyler.....	\$1,163.91
Mercer.....	\$6,208.42	Scotland	\$6,693.26
Miller	\$4,793.60	Scott	\$3,186.10
Mississippi.....	\$24,701.70	Shannon	\$92,663.14
Moniteau	\$6,251.03	Shelby	\$2,302.71
Monroe	\$648.34	St Charles	\$20,930.15
Montgomery ...	\$3,461.06	St Clair.....	\$7,691.78
Morgan	\$7,477.65	St Francois.....	\$1,553.06
New Madrid	\$7,274.14	St Louis	\$51,699.31
Newton	\$5,252.00	Ste Genevieve..	\$4,387.71
Nodaway	\$15,174.83	Stoddard	\$21,877.33
Oregon.....	\$449.44	Stone	\$1,723.71
Osage	\$4,313.40	Sullivan	\$11,004.33
Ozark.....	\$7,776.83	Taney.....	\$4,938.56
Pemiscot.....	\$10,826.74	Texas	\$10,424.84
Perry.....	\$1,428.01	Vernon	\$30,292.50
Pettis	\$3,677.38	Warren	\$5,733.53
Phelps	\$4,337.35	Washington	\$9,705.29
Pike.....	\$6,098.09	Wayne	\$14,907.12
Platte.....	\$12,249.98	Webster	\$1,283.60
Polk.....	\$1,692.62	Worth	\$6,532.10
Pulaski.....	\$385.70	Wright	\$2,106.20
Putnam	\$7,657.68	TOTAL.....	\$847,375.89
Ralls	\$710.99		

Demographics and Opinions of Missourians

(Data from the U.S. Census Bureau; 2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; and the 2003 Conservation Opinion survey conducted by the University of Missouri, and the 2009 Conservation Monitor Survey conducted by The Gallop Organization.)

Ethnicity of Missourians	Total
White	82.8%
Black or African	11.6%
American Indian and Alaska Native	0.5%
Asian	1.6%
Native Hawaiian and Other Pacific Islander	0.1%
Some Other Race	1.3%
Two or More Races	2.1%

- Over 73% of Missourians live in an urban and suburban area.
- Missouri was ranked 5th in the nation for number of resident hunters and 10th in the nation for number of resident anglers in 2006. [Missouri ranked 5th in the nation for resident hunting retail sales and 4th in the nation for non-resident hunting retail sales.]
- There are more than one million anglers in Missouri. They would fill Arrowhead Stadium in Kansas City 14 times.
- There are more than 600,000 hunters in Missouri. They would fill Arrowhead Stadium seven times.
- There are more than 2.2 million wildlife watchers in Missouri. They would fill Arrowhead Stadium 28 times.
- Ninety-one percent of Missourians report they are interested in Missouri's forests, fish, and wildlife.
- Ninety-one percent of Missourians agree that "It is important for outdoor places to be protected even if you don't plan to visit the area."
- Seventy-nine percent of Missourians agree that the Department "should make an effort to restore animals that once lived or are currently very rare in Missouri."

- Seventy-five percent agree that land should be acquired for forest, fish, and wildlife conservation.
- Eighty-five percent of Missourians agree that the Missouri Department of Conservation “is a name I can trust”.

Economic Impact of Conservation in Missouri

(Data from 2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation that is conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.)

The amount of state sales tax revenue generated from fish and wildlife recreation and the forest products industry is about the same as the sales tax revenue received by MDC from the Conservation Sales Tax—**Conservation pays its way in Missouri.**

- The total economic impact from fish and wildlife recreation and forest products in Missouri is \$11.4 billion.
- Missourians and non-residents spend \$3.3 billion annually related to forest, fish, and wildlife recreation.
- Fishing and hunting expenditures generate over \$269 million for Missouri each year in state and local taxes.
- Forest, fish, and wildlife recreation spending generates over \$382 million dollars annually of state and local taxes.
- Annual expenditures related to forest, fish, and wildlife recreation in Missouri support over 64,186 jobs in Missouri.
- Since 1980, more than \$15.9 million has been paid to Missouri counties in lieu of taxes.
- Deer hunters in Missouri, age 16 years and older, spend over 5.7 million days afield and spent over \$690 million each year.
- Deer hunting in Missouri generates \$1.1 billion of business activity annually. This results in \$83 million in state and local tax revenue each year.
- The forestry and wood products industry in Missouri is an over \$5.7 billion activity and supports 31,700 jobs.
- Overall, forest, fish and wildlife recreation expenditures support over 95,000 jobs each year in Missouri.

Federal Assistance Programs

The Department receives about \$25 million a year from federal sources. Federal financial assistance can be in the form of the transfer of property (land or equipment), money, or other direct assistance to accomplish a public purpose as authorized by law. A **grant or cooperative agreement** is the legal instrument used to provide and document the financial assistance to the state. The distinction between a grant (low) and a cooperative agreement (high) is the amount of Federal involvement.

Federal programs such as the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration programs were critical in the early days of conservation, often protecting fledgling state programs and allowing the Department to obtain public lands for hunting, fishing, and wildlife habitat. The success of these programs over the last 75 years demonstrates the value of "user pays, user benefits". Other important sources of federal funding are from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Forest Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and the Natural Resource Conservation Service.



The Wildlife Restoration Program

- Commonly referred to as the Pittman-Robertson (P-R) Act of 1937.
- This program is funded by excise taxes on firearms, ammunition, and archery equipment.

- Funds are distributed to the states based on a formula that includes the total area of each state and the number of paid hunting license holders in each state.
- Administered through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Funds must be used for:

- The restoration, conservation, management, and enhancement of wild birds and mammals, and the provision for public use of and benefits from these resources.
- The education of hunters and archers in the skills, knowledge, and attitudes necessary to be responsible hunters and archers.

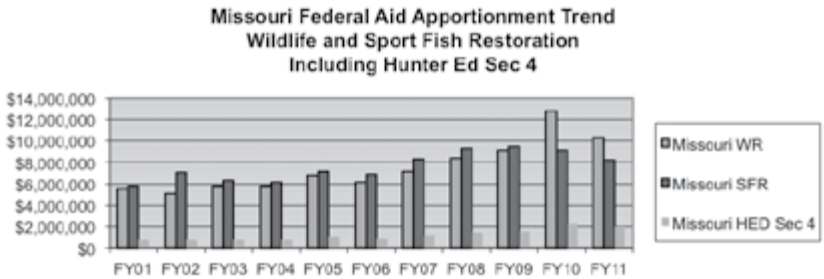
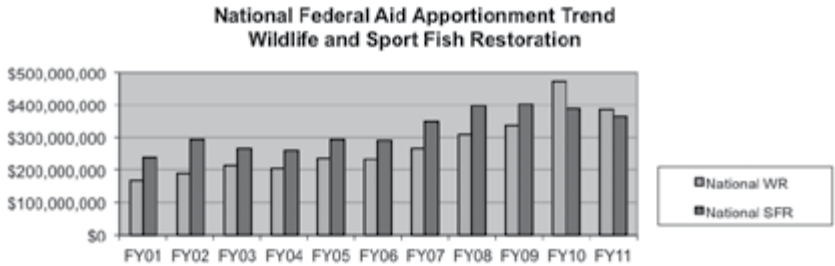
The Sport Fish Restoration Program

- Commonly referred to as the Dingell-Johnson (D-J) Act of 1950, with important amendments through the Wallop-Breaux Act (1984), and the Transportation Equity Act of 2005.
- Funded by excise taxes on fishing equipment and trolling motors, motorboat and small engine fuels tax, and import duties on tackle, pleasure boats, and yachts.
- Funds are distributed to the states based on a formula that includes the total area of each state including coastal waters, and the number of paid fishing license holders in each state.
- Administered through the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Funds must be used for:

- The restoration, conservation, management, and enhancement of sport fish, and the provision for public use of and benefits from these resources.
- The enhancement of public understanding of water resources and aquatic life forms, and the development of responsible attitudes toward the aquatic environment.

Fiscal Year 2011 Federal Apportionment from:

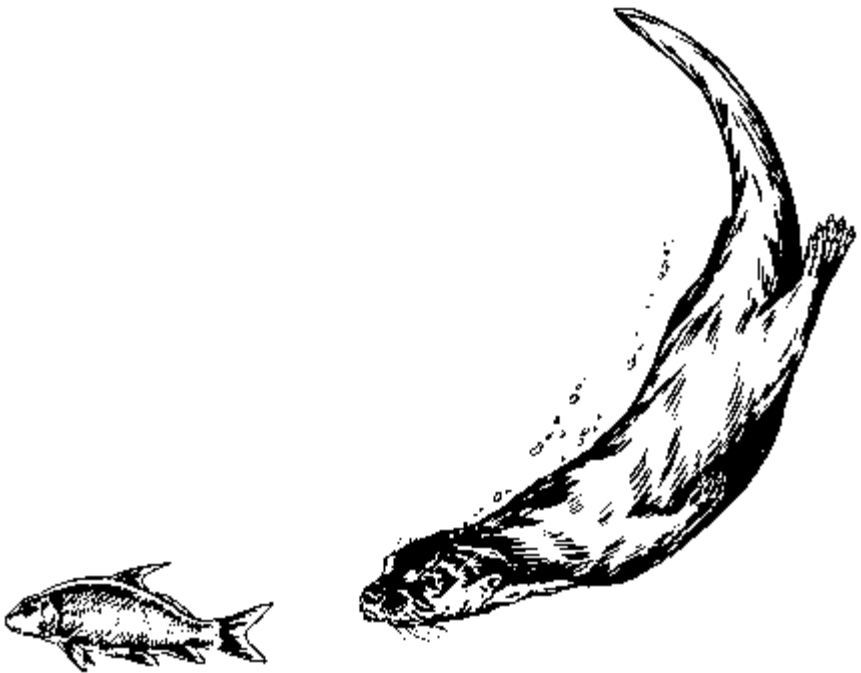


Forestry Program

- The Clarke-McNary Act of 1924 enabled the Secretary of Agriculture to work cooperatively with State officials for better forest protection, chiefly fire control, and water resources.
- It authorized cooperative programs with land grant schools or other suitable state agencies (encouraging the creation of State Forestry Programs).
- It allowed for the government to assist landowners and farmers to restore productive forest lands.
- This law guided cooperative assistance programs for more than half a century, until it was revised in the Cooperative Forestry Assistance Act of 1978.
- The 1990 Farm Bill and more recent ones include forestry programs intended to address private land issues.

USDA Farm Bill (Private Land Work)

The Farm Bill is the primary agricultural and food policy tool of the federal government. The original intent was for Congress to pass a comprehensive omnibus bill every five years. The Farm Bill includes many important programs and funding sources (agriculture, conservation, forestry, etc.) administered by the United States Department of Agriculture (primarily U.S. Forest Service and Natural Resource Conservation Services). The Department has an important role in carrying out several of the programs, most notably as a technical service provider.



History of the Department

1935

- Restoration and Conservation Federation of Missouri is established.
- E. Sydney Stephens is elected president of the Conservation Federation; helps draft a constitutional amendment that would form a Conservation Commission.

1936

- Petition drive for Amendment 4, creating the non-political Conservation Commission, begins by Conservation Federation of Missouri.
- Amendment 4 passes by voters on November 3. Vote was 879,213 for and 351,962 against.

1937-1938

- Constitutional Amendment 4 creating the Conservation Commission becomes effective July 1. First Conservation Commission meeting is held on July 2. Commission consists of E. Sydney Stephens (chair), John F. Case, Wilbur C. Buford, and Albert P. Greensfelder.
- Department is divided into Administrative Division; Fish, Game, and Forest Division; and Information and Education Division.
- Supreme Court rules Commission has power to establish regulations and abolishes all laws in conflict.
- State Park Board is formed; consists of governor, attorney general, and Department director. Park lands divided between new Park Board and Conservation, based on primary use.
- Federal Wildlife Restoration program (Pittman-Robertson Act) is adopted.
- First issue of Missouri Conservationist comes out on July 1, 1938 (10,000 copies).
- Cooperative Wildlife Management Areas begins; 1,200 farmers cooperate.
- Farm Pond program begins.
- First "Showboat" is launched. The Showboat was a truck that foresters used to visit rural areas to show movies promoting fire suppression and wildlife habitat.

1939-1940

- Commission closes seasons on deer and turkey, inaugurates refuge system for all game.
- Nature Knights started.

- Protection Division is established.
- Forest seedling nursery is started.

1941-1942

- Department now has 251 employees, 1943 budget of \$686,300.
- Cooperative fish rearing pond program is established.
- First farm forestry projects are initiated.
- First pollution investigations are undertaken.
- Department takes over operations of the U.S. Forest Service nursery in Licking, MO.
- Protection is given Division status.
- Education section established.

1944

- Deer hunting season reopens; two-day season in 20 counties, 589 deer taken.

1945

- Peck Ranch acquired.
- Deer season is three days in 21 counties.

1946

- Wildlife and Forestry Act declares title to wildlife belongs to the state, establishes powers of agents, fixes penalties for violations of Commission rules.
- A separate State Forestry Act establishes Forest Crop Land Program, provides penalties for forest arson and timber theft.
- Forestry Division splits from Fish and Game Division.
- Commission issues policy that no Department employee may hunt deer.

1947

- First archery deer season, 13 days, held in Crawford county. Seventy-seven archers participated and saw one deer.

1949

- Commission allows employees to hunt during the third and fourth days of deer season, but not in the county they are assigned.
- Two agents, Roger Reed and Ed Hartel, are shot by a suspected waterfowl poacher in Mississippi County. Both survive, shooter is later arrested.

1950

- Dingell-Johnson Act passes, beginning the Sport Fish Restoration Program.

1951

- The Department stocks 2.5 million fish in 2,733 ponds, 260 lakes.
- "Precipitin test" is developed by agent Leroy Korschgen to identify deer blood and meat.
- Commission abolishes restrictions on employee deer hunting.
- Purchases Duck Creek Conservation Area.

1952

- Elder vs. Delcour ruling, eventually went to Missouri Supreme Court and in 1954, Missouri streams, where anglers might canoe and wade, were declared "public waters".
- Gift to Department of 831 acres of James A. Reed Memorial Wildlife Area.

1953

- First permit price increase since 1947, prices at Hunting \$3, Fishing \$2, Trapping \$3.
- Turkey population estimated at 2,300.

1954

- Establishes trout fishing on Current River below Montauk.
- First open pheasant season.

1957

- Non-residents can hunt for first time in 5-day gun deer season.
- Planting 10 million trees annually.
- Hunter Safety (Hunter Education) program begins.

1958

- Department emphasis officially switches from deer to turkey restoration.
- Stream access program begins.
- Shepherd of the Hill hatchery opens.

1959

- Entire state is open for deer hunting for the first time; 6-day season.
- Ruffed grouse restoration project begins.

1960

- Department wins international attention when fisheries biologist Chuck Purkett unravels the mystery of paddlefish spawning.
- First modern day spring turkey season.

1961

- Conservation agent Glen McCormick shoots and kills a forest arsonist in Shannon County after being shot at and physically attacked.
- Paddlefish propagated at Bennett Springs hatchery.

1962

- Since 1944 the Department has assisted in 138,484 farm ponds; has stocked 52,570 lakes and ponds.

1964

- Department begins providing training, funding, and equipment to rural firefighters.

1965

- Game Division splits from Fisheries Division.
- New department headquarters opened.

1966

- Fifty-one thousand Muskie fry released in Pome de Terre Lake.

1969

- Urban fishing program begins in St. Louis City park lakes; first in nation.
- Community Forestry Program begins.

1970

- The *Missouri Conservation Program Report*, a study of Department and its programs conducted to determine a future course of action, is presented to the public.
- Department, anticipating reaction to the *Report*, prepares *Challenge and Response*, which estimates an additional \$21 million per year is needed to implement the proposed course of action.
- Citizens Committee for Conservation is formed in order to determine a way of funding the proposed course of action.

- W. O. Nagel's Conservation Contrasts is published.
- Department's triangular logo is adopted.
- Record Fish Awards program begins.
- Natural Area Program starts.

1971

- Design for Conservation strategic plan is released.
- Master Angler Program started.
- Conservationist circulation at 196,500.

1972

- Petition drive for soft drink tax to fund Design succeeds, but petition is ruled invalid.

1973

- U.S. Congress passes Endangered Species Act.

1974

- Citizens Committee for Conservation decides to go for sales tax amendment to fund the plan outlined in Design for Conservation.
- Game Division is renamed Wildlife Division to increase emphasis on non-game species management.

1975

- First fall archery turkey season.

1976

- New petition drive succeeds; voters approve one-eighth cent Conservation Sales Tax on November 2.
- New or enhanced forestry programs: utilization and marketing, rural fire protection, tree improvement, vegetative management, insects and diseases, urban and community forestry.
- Winter catch and release trout fishing at Bennett Springs.
- Total of 115 fishing accesses in the state.

1977

- Conservation Sales Tax becomes effective on July 1. Department begins to implement plans outlined in Design for Conservation.

1978

- Proposed budget for fiscal year 1979 is \$48,031,601 (more than double that of three years ago).
- An additional 130 new positions filled in fiscal year 1977-78.
- The annual Eagle Days program begins.
- Ballot issue to establish in lieu of tax payments using the Conservation Sales Tax is defeated on November 7.
- First fall firearm turkey season.
- Harvest 4,335 birds.

1979

- Commission makes blaze orange mandatory for deer hunters.

1980

- Commission endorses the amendment that would require the Department to make payments to counties in lieu of taxes, and orders widespread publicity.
- Voters approve constitutional amendment to allow payments to counties in lieu of taxes for lands purchased after July 1, 1977 and for forest crop land payments on November 4, 1980. "Hancock Amendment" is included on the same ballot. The fact that both amendments were on the same ballot was used by the Missouri Courts in later years to declare the Conservation Sales Tax not subject to the Hancock Amendment.
- Natural History Section is established.
- Kansas City urban fishing program begins.
- Community Assistance Program is initiated, which provides grants and fish management expertise to communities so that they can build or improve public lakes.

1981

- Lake City Range opens.
- Bald eagle restoration efforts begin.

1982

- Commission adopts the Operation Game Thief program from the Conservation Federation.
- Otter restoration program begins.
- First Missouri ruffed grouse season in modern times is announced.
- First nature center (Burr Oak Woods) opens.

1984

- Wallop-Breaux Act passes, amending the Sport Fish Restoration Program.
- The one tenth of one percent Parks and Soils sales tax passed by a two thirds vote of the Missouri people. The tax serves as the primary funding source for the Department of Natural Resource's state park system and the Soil and Water Conservation Districts' soil erosion prevention programs.

1985

- 1985 Farm Bill includes the first conservation provision (CRP).
- Steel shot for waterfowl hunting becomes mandatory in selected areas, as required by a federal ruling from a suit brought about by the National Wildlife Federation.

1986

- Quail population enhancement program begins.
- "Stash Your Trash," an anti-littering campaign, is piloted on four Ozark streams as a 50th anniversary project.
- First episode of "Missouri Outdoors" airs in the Jefferson City/ Columbia region.
- Department Safety Officer is shot and killed while preparing to inspect a Department shooting range.
- Closure from 10 p.m to 4 a.m. on department areas is established.

1987

- The Department celebrates the 50th Anniversary of the establishment of the Missouri Conservation Commission.

1988

- Missouri voters renew the Parks and Soils sales tax.
- Hunter Education becomes required for those born after January 1, 1967.
- Due to a pipeline break, 800,000 gallons of oil pours into the Gasconade River near Vienna. The Department, with DNR, begins extensive sampling and monitoring of the area.

1989

- North American Wetlands Conservation Act passes, providing matching grants to carry out wetlands conservation projects for the benefit of wildlife.
- Stream Team Program begins.

- “Missouri Outdoors” airs statewide.

1990

- U.S. Congress passes North American Waterfowl Conservation Act.
- Streams for the Future program begins.
- Missouri Urban and Community Forestry Advisory Council is formed; is later renamed to Missouri Community Forestry Council (MCFC).
- Missouri Ozark Forest Ecosystem Project (MOFEP) begins.

1991

- Construction of wetland at Eagle Bluffs CA begins, one of 12 major wetland developments. This project later wins the Association of Conservation Engineer’s First Place - Award of Excellence.
- Operation Forest Arson hotline is started.

1992

- A 15” minimum length limit and reduced daily creel limit for small-mouth bass on selected Ozark streams is implemented.

1993

- The Great Flood of ‘93: the first 500 year flood of the decade in the Upper Mississippi and Missouri River Basins, causes an estimated \$1.25 billion in damage, not including agricultural crops. The Department launches a program to purchase 20,000 acres of flood plain to absorb future floodwaters and minimize loss of life and property.

1994

- First stocking of pallid sturgeon.

1995

- A boat ramp facility design for wheelchair users, which has served as a national model, is developed.
- The second 500 year flood of the decade in the Upper Missouri River Basin Water levels in some areas reaches higher than the ‘93 flood.

1996

- The Department automates distribution of hunting and fishing permits with the Point-of-Sale system. This marks the first completely automated real time system for sport hunting and fishing permits in the country.
- Missouri voters renew the Parks and Soils sales tax.
- River otter trapping season is reinstated.

- Department website debuts.
- Statewide gypsy moth monitoring begins.

1997

- Jerry Conley is selected as Director, from outside the Department.
- Field employees are no longer required to wear the formal green and grey Department uniform; instead, they are to simply wear the Department logo on their shirt.
- Regional boundaries within the state are standardized between Department divisions, and Regional Coordination Teams are established.
- The Department and NRCS join together in the Openlands Initiative in order to better implement the conservation programs in the new Farm Bill.
- New Missouri statute gives conservation agents full arrest authority.
- Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation (MCHF) forms.
- Three week spring turkey season.

1998

- Jerry P. Combs Lake makes national news. Due to sand deposits underground, the lake will not hold water. It was successfully repaired.
- Missouri river floodplains acquired by the Department and USFWS following '93 and '95 floods are thought to have prevented flooding in Jefferson City.
- The statewide Forest Inventory and Analysis begins. This is the first cycle of a continuous five-year inventory.

1999

- Stream Stewardship Trust Fund is created to mitigate the loss of Missouri's stream resources. Funds are administered by MCHF.
- The Department enters into an interstate Wildlife Violator Compact, which recognizes out-of-state violations of wildlife laws and license suspensions as if they occurred in their own state.
- Forest Health Monitoring program is implemented; 20% of state forests will be inventoried yearly for use in management decisions.
- Invasive zebra mussels are discovered in Meramec River. This is the first Missouri sighting.
- Missouri Supreme Court rules that conservation sales tax funds are exempt from the 1980 Hancock Amendment, which dictates that excess state funds must be refunded. The Department retains \$2 million in funds.

2000

- Private Land Services Division is formed using funds made available through the Hancock Amendment ruling.
- Grow Native! program is initiated.
- Conservation license plates are available through Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation.
- Urban deer management policy is adopted.
- Teaming with Wildlife, a coalition of 4,500 organizations, convinces Congress to designate funds to assist state conservation programs.
- Elk feasibility proposal presented to commission; placed on hold because of habitat.

2001

- A 10-year sturgeon monitoring project on Missouri and Mississippi rivers begins.

2002

- A two-year chronic wasting disease (CWD) surveillance effort begins. This is one of the largest short-term projects to date; over 400 employees involved. No evidence of CWD was ever found in Missouri's deer population.
- First Fish program is started to recognize anglers for their first ever catches.
- No MOre Trash! campaign is launched in partnership with the Department of Transportation.
- The grotto sculpin, a new cave fish species, is discovered and later used as an indicator species of underground water quality.

2003

- Internet sales of hunting and fishing permits begin.
- A plan for Missouri trout fishing is approved.

2004

- Investigation of Iowa permit databases identifies over 200 persons who claimed residency in both states when buying permits.
- Four-point antler restriction is put into effect in 29 counties to shift the deer harvest toward more antlerless deer.

2005

- Transportation Equity Act passes, amending the Sport Fish Restoration Program.

- Experimental five-year handfishing season begins as part of the Catfish Harvest Evaluation Project.
- The upper Taum Sauk reservoir of the AmerenUE hydroelectric facility fails, releasing a billion gallons of water in 12 minutes into Johnson's Shut-Ins and Taum Sauk State Parks.
- Missouri's Comprehensive Wildlife Strategy is approved by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- Conservation Opportunity Areas (COAs) concept is activated.
- Telecheck system is implemented. In-person check stations no longer necessary.
- The Department joins MDA and USFS in emerald ash borer monitoring.

2006

- The Department joins DNR and project consultants in mitigating the damage from the Taum Sauk reservoir breach.
- Waterfowl hunting reservations are limited to Missouri residents on wetland conservation areas.
- A five-year plan to increase the prairie chicken population to 3,000 is approved.
- One millionth hunter education student graduates.

2007

- Commission ends experimental catfish handfishing season after two years, after research indicated that nests left unprotected had a 0% survival rate.
- Initiated first National Fish Habitat Initiative (NFHI) project in Missouri at Table Rock Lake and Lake Taneycomo.
- Missouri statute adds conservation agent vehicles to the emergency vehicle list.
- Severe ice storm caused significant destruction of trees in southern Missouri.
- Missouri Forest Resources Advisory Council is formed.

2008

- The two-year Apprentice Hunter Authorization permit becomes available, allowing new hunters (16 years and older) to hunt with a mentor for two years before being required to take hunter education.
- The exotic invasive Emerald Ash Borer Beetle was found in Missouri resulting in a state and federal quarantine of Wayne County.
- The Mississippi River Valley experiences a 200 year flood event, overtopping and damaging numerous levees.

2009

- The Department removes otter trapping zones and sets a statewide season and harvest quota.
- Missouri Stream Team Program celebrates its 20th birthday and signs on its 4000th team.
- The Conservation Commission approves a vacancy management plan to lower the number of full time employees, modify services, and close several offices.
- The Department experiences its second consecutive year of negative sales tax growth.
- May 8, a “Super Derecho” impacted the southern half of Missouri. On Department lands, the wind storm affected approximately 13,000 acres.

2010

- The eighth Director of the Department, Robert L. Ziehmer, is sworn in on January 15.
- *Xplor* kids’ magazine and companion web site launched.
- Missouri’s Forest Resource Assessment and Strategy (FRAS) is adopted in June 2010. FRAS is an evaluation of conditions, trends, threats, and opportunities facing our forests.
- Elk restoration approved by the Conservation Commission.
- The Department experiences its third consecutive year of negative sales tax growth, first time this has happened since the Conservation Sales Tax was implemented in 1977.
- Department pilots a new Internet-based draw system, Quick Draw, to allocate hunting opportunities for waterfowl hunters.
- Department confirms Missouri’s first signs of White-Nose Syndrome, a disease in bats.

2011

- Wild elk are returned to Missouri after an absence of 150 years.
- Department fully implements Vacancy Management Plan by June 2011 resulting in an 11% reduction in the Department’s fulltime staff.
- The Department starts the transition to a new online permit system known as e-Permits.

- Social media has increased role in sharing information with Missourians. The Department's Facebook page reaches almost 1.5 million people per month. YouTube channels average 140,000 views per month with more than five million total views.
- Chronic Wasting Disease is detected in the free-ranging deer population for the first time - two adult bucks in Macon County.
- Department confirms 14 mountain lion sightings in 2011.

2012

- The Department celebrates 75th Anniversary of voters approving Amendment 4 to create the Conservation Commission and Department.
- Five-year feral hog eradication plan developed.
- Missouri experiences the worst state-wide drought since 1988.
- Ribbon cutting ceremonies were held commemorating the newly operating biomass thermal energy heating systems that make up the Missouri Fuels for schools program. The Department awarded \$6 million in grant to six schools using funding provided by the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act (ARRA).
- The Forest and Woodland Association of Missouri is launched.
- Reduce energy use by 25% in major office and nature centers.

For a more detailed account of the history of the Department up to 1987, read *The First 50 Years* by James Keefe (www.mdc.mo.gov/about/50_yrs).

Hunter Education

- Hunter Safety courses were first offered by the Department in 1957.
- Mandatory Hunter Education certification was enacted in 1987 and implemented January 1, 1988.
- Is required for anyone born after January 1, 1967 is over 16, or wants to hunt unsupervised, AND anyone born after January 1, 1967 who goes afield to assist/mentor a youth who hunts with a youth permit, or individual hunting with an Apprentice Hunter Authorization.
- To receive certification, you must be at least 11 years old, but is not required until age 16. This course is recommended for motivated students age 14 and older with good reading and comprehension skills who have some firearm and hunting knowledge or experience.
- Minimum 10-hour classroom training or the online Hunter Education training module coupled with a five-hour field day is required.
- Hunter Education works: Certification has helped reduce Missouri's hunting accident rate by 72%.
- Over one million hunter education students have graduated as of 2008.
- In 2011, 917 hunter education classes were conducted, certifying 25,648 students.
- Missouri also offers a voluntary Bowhunter Education Certification course for those ages 11 and older.
- Missouri also offers a free online tree stand safety course for all ages.



Information and upcoming courses can be searched for online at www.mdc.mo.gov/node/3722.

Information Resources

Annual Report

The Department publishes a summary of the annual report in the January issue of the *Missouri Conservationist* magazine. The full annual report is available on the public website:

<http://mdc4.mdc.mo.gov/applications/MDCLibrary/MDCLibrary2.aspx?NodeID=1202>

In recent years, the abbreviated report of the previous fiscal year's budgets has been published in January issues of the *Missouri Conservationist*.

Missouri Conservationist Magazine

The current issue and a search engine to find previous articles can be found online at <http://mdc.mo.gov/conmag>.

Xplor magazine issues can be found online at <http://xplor.mdc.mo.gov/#home>.

Missouri Department of Conservation Website

The Department's website, <http://mdc.mo.gov>, is its primary link to provide the public with online information. It contains a wealth of information for Missourians to learn about their forest, fish, and wildlife resources.



Ombudsman Report

The monthly ombudsman report covers issues of public concern and topics of interest as addressed by the Department ombudsman. This is available to employees on the Department's Intranet.

Policy Manuals

There are three Department policy manuals that contain policy decisions approved by the Conservation Commission and that provide statewide direction to employees. The current manuals include the Human Resources Policy Manual, the Business Policy Manual and the Resource Policy Manual.

In addition a Department Correspondence Manual is available on the Intranet. Outreach and Education also provides a guide to written style for publications on the web. The Department Correspondence Manual has guidelines for memos, letters, and email.

Secretary of State Report

The Missouri Secretary of State publishes an annual report called the *Official Manual of the State of Missouri* (informally, the "Blue Book") that documents information about state government, history, and culture of Missouri. Each unit of state government has a section that describes their organization, duties, and accomplishments. The online version of the current year's report can be found at the Secretary of State's website: <http://www.sos.mo.gov/bluebook/>. The Department's summary can be found under the Executive Departments chapter. The names of all full-time state employees, their agencies, job titles, and salaries can be found in the Personnel chapter.

The Wildlife Code

The *Wildlife Code of Missouri* refers to Title 10 of the *Code of State Regulations*, which are the regulations set forth by the Conservation Commission. *The Code of State Regulations* is published by the Missouri Secretary of State. Printed versions of *The Wildlife Code* are available at permit vendors statewide and is available online at <http://www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/current/3csr/3csr.asp>. For more information on how these regulations are developed, see the Regulations chapter.

Department Lands

Overview

- The Missouri Department of Conservation administers 995,628 acres located throughout the state.
- As of fiscal year 2012, the Department:
 - Owned 792,235 acres.
 - Managed 203,393 acres that are leased from other entities (for example, Corps of Engineers, The Nature Conservancy, etc.).
 - More information about lands for public use is available in the Department's online Conservation Atlas at www.mdc.mo.gov/atlas. Area information can be found by searching by area name, county, or region.
 - About 92% of the overall land that the Department owns was purchased and 8% was donated.
 - The Department owns less than 2% of Missouri's acres. Over 93% of Missouri is privately owned.
 - Only state agency to make PILT payment as long as we hold title.

Missouri Natural Areas

- Natural areas are designated by the Missouri Natural Areas Committee (made up of representatives from the Department of Conservation, the Department of Natural Resources, the Mark Twain National Forest, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, The Nature Conservancy, and the Ozark National Scenic Riverways).
- As of 2011, 184 areas were designated as Natural Areas in Missouri, encompassing 73,306 acres.
- In 2011, 92 areas (37,713 acres) were on Department land and the Department managed an additional 17 natural areas (2,579 acres).
- Natural areas are biological communities or geological sites that preserve and are managed to perpetuate the natural character, diversity, and ecological processes of Missouri's native landscapes.

- Areas registered with the program can be owned by state or federal agencies, organizations, and individuals through cooperative agreements with these owners.
- Natural areas are permanently protected and managed for the purpose of preserving their natural qualities.
- Program began in 1970, and by 1976, there were 49 areas with about 6,000 acres.
- Locations and brief descriptions of Missouri's Natural Areas are on the online Natural Areas Directory at <http://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/places-go/natural-areas>

Names and Name Changes

Areas are named after natural features, local, and historic places or events, or persons of historic importance. Names with local historic significance are preferred. Donated areas have the option to be named for the person honored or as recommended by the donor.

Until a few years ago, Department areas were listed by a variety of labels, including conservation areas, wildlife areas, and state forests. To simplify things, the agency decided to refer to all such properties as "conservation areas." The exception is public fishing accesses, each of which is now called an "access." Some areas, mostly gift acquisitions, continue to have special wording in their names because of deed stipulations (for example, the Kessler Memorial Wildlife Area). When entire areas are designated as a natural area by the Natural Areas Committee, they are called "natural areas" (for example, Allred Lake Natural Area). Signs on some areas still use the old names, but are being replaced as they become unserviceable.

Quick Facts of Land Managed in Natural Areas

In fiscal year 2012, actively managed habitat included:

- 32,190 acres of grassland/prairie
- 39,049 acres of marsh/wetlands
- 2,321 acres of glades
- 58,630 acres of forests/woodlands
- 4,365 acres of savannas
- 22,408 acres of old field
- 80 miles of edge habitat managed
- 84,078 acres of crops for certain wildlife species
- 92 natural areas (37,713 acres) on MDC lands
- 17 natural areas (2,579 acres) owned by other entities



Logo of the Department



Previous Department Logo



Serving nature and you®

Current Department Logo



75th Anniversary Logo

- The familiar triangle logo with the oak leaf, bass, and raccoon represents the forestry, fisheries, and wildlife programs of the Department.
- The triangle logo is the brand of the Missouri Department of Conservation. It identifies staff and the Department with the Constitutional responsibility for Missouri's forest, fish, and wildlife.
- Use of the Department's logo must be clean and legible. Logo images that do not include the registered trademark symbol, (R), should not be used.
- The logo collection with and without the slogan is available on the Intranet for Department employees.
- Use the version with the slogan whenever possible.
- Use the version without the slogan when the design includes a logo size so small that the slogan would be unreadable.
- The Department's logo can be used by others outside the Department after contacting Outreach and Education Division.
- The current triangle logo was not adopted until 1970. Charles Schwartz, a Department biologist and illustrator from 1940 to 1981, designed the current triangle logo and presented it to the Conservation Commission for approval.

- The previous Department logo - a hawthorn blossom, honoring the state flower - had been in use since 1942.
- Starting in November of 2011, the Missouri Department of Conservation began celebrating its 75th anniversary. In honor of the event, a special 75th logo was designed. On November 3, 1936, voters approved Amendment 4 to the Missouri Constitution, creating the Conservation Commission and Department, and the beginning of Missouri's unique, citizen-led conservation story. On July 1, 1937, Amendment 4 took effect. The 75th anniversary logo should be used through the end of June 2013. The 75th anniversary logo should have the TM mark, rather than the circle R.



Marketing/Awareness Programs



Marketing programs help to inform Missourians about conservation issues and to promote conservation at a statewide and grassroots level. To market the Department's role in Missouri, the slogan "Serving Nature and You," has been used with the triangle logo since 2005. The slogan is included with the logo whenever it will appear large enough to read.

Below are just some of the other marketing programs the Department is involved in.

Discover Nature

Missourians have long supported a tax to help conserve our natural heritage in a sustainable way. However, the key to successful conservation is the stewardship ethic of individuals. For the future health of our children and our natural world, the Missouri Department of Conservation offers Discover Nature programs that include general public programs as well as programs for women and families. Discover Nature Schools programs fall under the Discover Nature umbrella.



Discover Nature Schools is a program designed to help children experience nature outside the classroom close to home, while helping administrators and teachers deliver hands-on, place-based learning, and overcome the challenges of funding and testing. Key components of the program include: instructional materials (teacher and student guides) that focus on conservation and nature study aligned with Grade Level Expectations and Core Competencies; teacher training; grants for related teaching resources and equipment; and grants for field experiences. Units are now available for grades K-2, 3-5, 6-8, and high school. An early childhood unit will be available in 2013.

Discover Nature events offered specifically for women are designed to give women the skills and confidence to pursue a wide range of outdoor activities alone, with friends, or with their families. Hands-on workshops offer women opportunities to learn a variety of outdoor-related skills under the guidance of qualified instructors.

Discover Nature Families programs are designed to introduce families to the outdoors and guide them towards learning nature-related, outdoor skills together. These programs provide families many opportunities to become comfortable outdoors and to instill in them the desire and confidence to continue a lifetime of enjoying nature and newly-acquired outdoor skills.

No MOre Trash!



No MOre Trash! is a litter awareness campaign. Experience has shown that keeping the litter-prevention message in the public eye is essential to addressing litter problems. The campaign is co-sponsored by the Department and the Missouri Department of Transportation.
<http://extra.mdc.mo.gov/nomoretrash/>

Stash Your Trash

Stash Your Trash is a stream conservation effort to help keep litter out of Missouri's streams. Free red mesh trash bags are distributed to river recreationists, mostly through canoe-rental operations, which make it easy for floaters to keep trash out of streams. The program is sponsored by the Department and the Stream Team program.

Operation Forest Arson

Operation Forest Arson is an anti-arson program, working to stop the setting of wildfires. The program offers a reliable method for citizens to anonymously report arson. Rewards can be received for information that leads to the apprehension of an arsonist. The program is administered by the Department, the Conservation Federation of Missouri, and the U.S. Forest Service, who sponsor a toll-free hotline, offer reward incentives, and provide public education. To report forest arson, call (800) 392-1111 or call your local conservation agent.



Operation Game Thief



Poachers steal everyone's opportunity to enjoy our fish and wildlife resources. Operation Game Thief is an anti-poaching program, working to stop the illegal taking of fish and wildlife. The program makes it easy for citizens to anonymously report *Wildlife Code* violations, and offers cash rewards for

information that leads to the arrest of a poacher. The program is administered by the Department and the Conservation Federation of Missouri, who sponsor a toll-free hotline, offer reward incentives and provide public education. To report poaching, call (800) 392-1111 or call your local conservation agent.

Share the Harvest

Share the Harvest is a program that provides an easy way for hunters to donate venison to Missourians in need of red meat. Hunters simply take a harvested deer to an approved processor for processing and specify how much of the deer they wish to donate. Participating hunters are still responsible for the cost of processing; however, the fee is reduced if the entire deer is donated. The donated meat is then delivered to non-profit charitable organizations, who distribute it to ensure it goes where it serves the greatest need. The program is sponsored by the Department, the Conservation Federation of Missouri, Bass Pro Shops, and Shelter Insurance.

<http://mdc.mo.gov/hunting-trapping/deer/share-harvest>



- An online archive of Department news releases is available on the public Web page. It can be found online at <http://mdc.mo.gov/newsroom/mdc-news>. Anyone interested in receiving these news releases in a weekly email can sign up at this page.
- Department employees can view an archive of news clips concerning the Department, its employees, or conservation topics on the Intranet.
- A roster of media contacts can be found on the public website: <http://mdc.mo.gov/newsroom>
- The *Missouri Conservationist* archive is online at http://www.sos.mo.gov/archives/mdh_splash/default.asp?coll=moconserv



Partners

The Department works with many partners to achieve its goals for conservation in Missouri. These partners include state and federal agencies, non-profit organizations, local governments, businesses, schools and universities, and citizen conservationists.

Two partners of particular importance are:

Conservation Federation of Missouri

The Conservation Federation of Missouri (CFM) is a non-profit organization that is made up of sportsmen and citizen conservationists. The CFM organized in 1935 with the purpose of taking conservation out of the hands of politicians and into the hands of the public. The purpose of their first meeting was to draft an original constitutional amendment that called for the creation of the Conservation Commission and the Department of

Conservation. Other notable achievements include successfully lobbying to prevent changes from being made to the original constitutional amendment in 1945, and leading the efforts to pass the conservation sales tax that established funding for the Design for Conservation strategic plan in 1976.

The CFM initiated the Operation Game Thief and Operation Forest Arson programs in an effort to protect Missouri's forest, fish, and wildlife resources. The CFM also co-sponsors the Share the Harvest and Stream Team programs and coordinates Missouri's Teaming With Wildlife Coalition.

The mission of CFM is Missourians for the conservation of natural resources and protection of our outdoor heritage. The CFM regularly cooperates with national and state governments as well as scientific research societies to achieve its conservation goals. For more information, visit <http://www.confedmo.org>.



Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation



The purpose of the Missouri Conservation Heritage Foundation (MCHF) is to raise funds and to provide resources for the efforts of the Department, and to take a leading role in ensuring both the protection of Missouri's conservation heritage and the provision of outdoor opportunities for future generations. The MCHF

strives to meet the increasing demand for areas of outdoor activities and natural community restoration projects by partnering with local efforts. The MCHF has several endowments and trust accounts that are used for these efforts. The MCHF was founded as a nonprofit organization in 1997, and since then has funded more than \$12 million for conservation projects in Missouri.

The most visible MCHF fundraising effort is the Missouri Conservation Heritage License Plate program. A yearly donation of \$25 to MCHF allows you to have a bald eagle, deer, or bluebird conservation license plate on your automobile or motorcycle.

For more information, visit <http://www.mochf.org/content/home.php>. Questions? Call (573) 634-2080 or (800) 227-1488, or send a message to mchf@mochf.org.



Peer Comparisons

Duties of Other Agencies in Missouri and Common Abbreviations

Farm Service Agency (FSA)

(A division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, USDA)

- Administers and manages farm commodity, crop insurance, credit, environmental, and emergency assistance programs for farmers and ranchers.
- Related to conservation, FSA administers conservation programs such as Conservation Reserve Program (CRP), the Federal Government's largest environmental improvement program; and Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP).
- *www.fsa.usda.gov*

Missouri Department of Agriculture (MDA)

- State Fair coordination.
- Provides business counseling, information, and training to Missouri's farmers and agribusinesses.
- Provides expertise in quality assurance, food safety, environmental issues, and disease control programs with respect to Missouri's livestock industry.
- Quality control of milk and grain; enforcement of storage and dealer standards.
- Oversees administration of pesticides and plant pest control laws
- Research, development, and promotion of Missouri grapes, juices, and wine.
- *www.mda.mo.gov*

Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)

- Missouri State Parks system, State Historical Preservation Office (SHPO).
- Soil and water conservation education and financial incentives.
- Air, water, and ground pollution regulations; monitoring and enforcement; dam safety program.

- Mineral, oil, and gas resources; geologic studies; land survey.
- Co-administrator, with the Department, of the Missouri Natural Areas Committee.
- *www.dnr.mo.gov*

Missouri Water Patrol

(A division of the Missouri State Highway Patrol, MSHP)

- Regulates waterway navigation markers.
- Patrols state recreational waters and enforces state law.
- Administration of water safety education program to schools.
- Boat safety inspection stations.
- Conducts dive operations to recover drowning or boat accident victims.
- Coordinated assistance with other police agencies.
- Rescue and recovery assistance during flooding conditions.
- *http://www.mshp.dps.mo.gov/MSHPWeb/WaterPatrol/*

National Park Service (NPS)

(A division of the U.S. Department of the Interior, DOI)

- National Parks system, including the Ozark National Scenic Riverway.
- Natural community management within parks.
- Administers Land and Water Conservation Fund.
- Member of Missouri Natural Areas Committee.
- *www.nps.gov/state/mo*

Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)

(A division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, USDA)

- Financial assistance for conservation activities through the U.S. Farm Bill.
- Conservation technical assistance in planning and implementing conservation systems and programs, such as Wetlands Reserve Program (WRP) and Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP).
- Technical expertise in animal husbandry, clean water, ecological sciences, engineering, resource economics, and social sciences.

- www.nrcs.usda.gov

University of Missouri Extension

- Supplies tools to enhance agricultural profitability, strengthen communities, and protect Missouri's natural resources.
- Provides technical information on agriculture and aquaculture practices, crops, pests and diseases, and soil and water management practices.
- Provides families with information on health, nutrition, parenting, aging, personal finance, housing, consumer action, etc.
- Business and workforce development.
- Community development.
- 4-H program.
- www.extension.missouri.edu

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) (Civil works program)

- Supports navigation by maintaining and improving river channels .
- Wetlands and waterways regulation and permitting (Clean Water Act Section 404).
- Flood protection and flood damage reduction.
- Stream and wetland ecosystem restoration.
- Maintains public recreation sites: lakes, rivers, and beaches.
- www.usace.army.mil

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) (A division of the U.S. Department of the Interior, DOI)

- Management of fish and wildlife habitat in the National Wildlife Refuge systems.
- Enforcement of federal wildlife laws such as the Endangered Species Act, Migratory Bird Treaty Act, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act.
- Management of migratory bird populations.

- Administration of federal grant programs that enhance fish and wildlife on private land.
- Administration of the federal excise taxes on fishing and hunting equipment to states.
- Member of Missouri Natural Areas Committee.
- *www.fws.gov*

U.S. Forest Service (USFS)

(A division of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, USDA)

- Protection and management of natural resources on National Forest System lands.
- Research in forestry, rangeland management, and forest resource utilization.
- Community assistance and cooperation with state and local governments, forest industries, and private landowners.
- International assistance in formulating policy and coordinating U.S. support for the protection and sound management of the world's forest resources.
- Member of Missouri Natural Areas Committee.
- *www.fs.fed.us*

U.S. Geological Survey (USGS)

(A division of the U.S. Department of the Interior, DOI)

- Provides scientific information to describe and understand the Earth; minimize loss of life and property from natural disasters; manage water, biological, energy and mineral resources; and enhance and protect our quality of life.
- Collects, monitors, analyzes, and provides scientific understanding about natural resource condition, issues, and problems; provides maps, imagery, and publications on scientific information, collaborates on science partnerships and opportunities.
- Cooperates with federal and state agencies to collect stream flow or water quality data or both at sites across the state.
- A federal partner in the Missouri Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit, along with USFWS.

- www.usgs.gov

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

- Primary responsibility for enforcing federal environmental statutes and regulations addressing air, water, wetlands, hazardous waste, pesticides and other chemicals; works closely with Missouri Department of Natural Resources on Clean Water Act regulations and programs.
- Conducts Ecosystem research to aid in restoring or maintaining the integrity of ecosystems by assessing the condition of the environment, diagnosing causes of impairment, and forecasting the impact of alternative activities.
- Oversees numerous grant opportunities including brownfield redevelopment, environmental education, wetland protection, and pollution prevention.
- www.epa.gov

Missouri State Emergency Management Agency (SEMA) **(A division of the Missouri Department of Public Safety)**

- Coordinates Missouri's emergency and disaster response and recovery operations.
- Administers the National Flood Insurance Program with Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA).
- www.sema.dps.mo.gov

Surrounding States

Hunting and Fishing

More people hunt and fish in Missouri than any of the surrounding states.
(Data from 2006 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service)

State	# Hunters (rank)	# Anglers (rank)
Arkansas	354,127 (2 nd)	655,000 (5 th)
Illinois	315,964 (4 th)	873,000 (2 nd)
Iowa	251,386 (7 th)	438,000 (7 th)
Kansas	271,175 (6 th)	404,000 (8 th)
Kentucky	291,384 (5 th)	721,000 (4 th)
Missouri	608,210 (1st)	1,076,000 (1st)
Nebraska	118,256 (9 th)	198,000 (9 th)
Oklahoma	250,590 (8 th)	611,000 (6 th)
Tennessee	328,937 (3 rd)	871,000 (3 rd)

Permit Costs

Following are price comparisons of some of the more common permits available in Missouri and surrounding states. All permits are listed in the order of price from highest to lowest (2011 permit prices).

Resident Hunting and Fishing Combination:	
Arkansas	N/A
Iowa	N/A
Oklahoma.....	\$42.00
Nebraska.....	\$40.00
Kansas.....	\$38.50
Illinois.....	\$31.75
Kentucky	\$30.00
Tennessee.....	\$28.00
Missouri	\$19.00

Resident Fishing:

Tennessee N/A

(Only has combination)

Nebraska.....	\$28.50
Oklahoma.....	\$25.00
Kansas.....	\$20.50
Kentucky.....	\$20.00
Iowa.....	\$19.00
Illinois.....	\$15.00
Missouri.....	\$12.00
Arkansas.....	\$10.50

Resident Small Game:

Tennessee N/A

(Only has combination)

Nebraska.....	\$34.00
Iowa.....	\$32.00
Oklahoma.....	\$25.00
Kansas.....	\$20.50
Kentucky.....	\$20.00
Illinois.....	\$18.00
Arkansas.....	\$10.50
Missouri.....	\$10.00

Resident Spring Turkey:

Iowa.....	\$56.50
Tennessee.....	\$56.00
Kentucky.....	\$50.00
Nebraska.....	\$44.00
Kansas.....	\$43.00
Oklahoma.....	\$35.00
Illinois.....	\$33.00
Arkansas.....	\$25.00
Missouri.....	\$17.00

Resident Fall Turkey:

Iowa.....	\$56.50
Tennessee.....	\$56.00
Kentucky.....	\$50.00
Kansas.....	\$44.00
Nebraska.....	\$40.00
Oklahoma.....	\$35.00
Illinois.....	\$33.00
Arkansas.....	\$25.00
Missouri.....	\$13.00

Resident Firearm Deer:

Iowa.....	\$60.50
Tennessee.....	\$56.00
Kansas.....	\$53.00
Kentucky.....	\$50.00
Nebraska.....	\$50.00
Oklahoma.....	\$45.00
Illinois.....	\$43.00
Arkansas.....	\$25.00
Missouri.....	\$17.00

NonResident Fishing:

Nebraska.....	\$60.50
Kentucky.....	\$50.00
Kansas.....	\$42.50
Oklahoma.....	\$42.00
Missouri.....	\$42.00
Tennessee.....	\$41.00
Iowa.....	\$41.00
Arkansas.....	\$40.00
Illinois.....	\$31.50

NonResident Small Game:

Oklahoma.....	\$142.00
Kentucky.....	\$130.00
Iowa.....	\$125.00
Nebraska.....	\$101.00
Tennessee.....	\$91.00
Arkansas.....	\$80.00
Missouri.....	\$80.00
Kansas.....	\$72.50
Illinois.....	\$56.25

NonResident Spring Turkey:

Arkansas.....	\$300.00
Tennessee.....	\$251.00
Iowa.....	\$227.00
Kentucky.....	\$190.00
Missouri.....	\$190.00
Illinois.....	\$188.25
Oklahoma.....	\$152.00
Nebraska.....	\$111.00
Kansas.....	\$105.00

NonResident Fall Turkey:

Iowa.....	N/A
Arkansas.....	\$300.00
Tennessee.....	\$251.00
Kentucky.....	\$190.00
Illinois.....	\$188.25
Oklahoma.....	\$152.00
Nebraska.....	\$111.00
Missouri.....	\$110.00
Kansas.....	\$105.00

NonResident Firearm Deer:

Iowa.....	\$423.00
Kansas.....	\$395.00
Illinois.....	\$356.25
Arkansas.....	\$300.00
Tennessee.....	\$251.00
Nebraska.....	\$229.00
Missouri.....	\$225.00
Oklahoma.....	\$206.00
Kentucky.....	\$190.00

Permits

Permit Facts

- Hunting and fishing permits accounted for approximately 18.62% of the Department of Conservation's annual revenue in the 2011 fiscal year. Total revenue collected from hunting and fishing permits that year was \$30,057,419.00.
- Permit prices have not kept pace with inflation over the last five years.
- Approximately 14.1% of all permits are sold to nonresidents.
- Non-Department permit vendors retain 5% of the selling price, and receive \$0.50 for each no-cost landowner permit. Of the \$32 million sold, \$1,674,129.00 was retained by the permit vendors.
- As of May 2012 there were 1,241 non-Department permit vendors in the state.

Permit Sales in Missouri in 2011

Permit Type	Number Sold	Dollar Value of Sales
Heritage Card	17,781	\$35,562
Resident Hunting and Fishing	127,748	\$2,425,589
Fishing	745,569	\$9,849,684
Small Game Hunting	135,575	\$1,615,073
Turkey Hunting	116,207	\$2,732,533
Managed Deer Hunt	4,957	\$88,484
Firearm Deer Hunting	590,499	\$10,602,487
Archer Hunting	161,537	\$4,007,643
Furbearer Hunt & Trap	7,812	\$107,940
Replacement	28,871	\$58,536
Total Lifetime	1,441	\$150,925
Grand Total - All Permits	1,937,997	\$31,674,456

Permit Vendor Type	Percent of sales in 2011 Permit Year
Chain Stores (Wal-Mart, Kmart, etc.)	48.25%
Quick Shops	12.81%
Other (includes Department of Conservation offices, internet, phone sales)	11.90%
Sporting Goods Stores	8.83%
Bait and Tackle Shops	2.95%
Variety Stores	2.75%
Liquor Stores	2.66%
Concessionaires	2.42%
Grocery Stores	2.34%
Hardware Stores	1.56%
Resorts	1.38%
Department Areas (Sold at Department of Conservation offices)	1.26%
Marinas	0.62%
Department Stores	0.28%

Purchasing Permits

- Annual hunting and fishing permits can be purchased December 1 of the previous year, except for spring turkey and deer permits, which can be purchased March 1 and July 1 of the current year, respectively.
- All resident and nonresident hunting and fishing permit prices can be found on the public website at <http://mdc.mo.gov/permits>.
- The Heritage Card is a convenient identification card that makes permit purchasing easier and faster. Holders also receive a discount on Department merchandise, including seedlings from the state nursery. The card can be purchased for \$2 through any permit vendor. It is issued free to Hunter Education graduates and is used as proof of course completion.

- Permits can be purchased at most Department of Conservation offices, local independent permit vendors, by phone at (800) 392-4115, or via the website at <https://www2.mo.wildlifelicense.com/start.php> There is a \$1 surcharge for all permit purchases made via the phone or website.
- Special use permits for personal use (camping, collecting, trapping, field trials, etc.) should be requested from the area manager. The contact information for the area manager can be found in the area's information, which is available by searching the name of the area on the online Conservation Atlas at <http://mdc4.mdc.mo.gov/applications/moatlas/AreaList.aspx?txtUserID=guest&txtAreaNm=s> or from the regional service center.
- Applications for special permits for commercial fishing, collecting, taxidermists, breeders, and others are also available on the public website at <http://mdc.mo.gov/permits/special-permits/breeder-and-collector-permits>.



References and Reading List

Books

- Bennitt, Rudolf, and Werner O. Nagel. 1937. A Survey of the Resident Game and Furbearers of Missouri. University of Missouri Studies. 12(2). 215pp.
- Callison, Charles. 1953. Man and Wildlife in Missouri- The History of One State's Treatment of Its Natural Resources. The Stackpole Co., reprinted by The Missouri Department of Conservation. 134pp.
- Keefe, James. 1987. The First 50 Years. Missouri Department of Conservation. 446pp. Retrieval from www.mdc.mo.gov/about/50_yrs.
- Low, Jim. 2005. The Genesis of Conservation in Missouri. Missouri Conservationist. 66(1) 12-17. Retrieval from www.mdc.mo.gov/conmag/2005/01/30.htm.
- McKinley, Daniel. 1960. A Chronology and Bibliography of Wildlife in Missouri. University of Missouri Library. Columbia, MO. 128pp.
- Missouri Department of Conservation. 1976. Special Issue: Missouri's Wildlife Trail 1700-1976. Missouri Conservationist. 37(7) 1-62.
- Nagel, Werner O. 1970. Conservation Contrasts. Missouri Department of Conservation. 453pp.

Videos

- Missouri Department of Conservation. 2012. Conservation Economics. DVD Video Presentation. 15 min. 40 sec.
- Missouri Department of Conservation. 2010. The Promise Continues. DVD Video Presentation. 28 min.
- Missouri Department of Conservation. 2010. Serving Nature and You. DVD Video Presentation. 10 min.
- Missouri Department of Conservation. 2009. Missouri Stream Team 20 Years. DVD Video Presentation. 28 min. 27 sec.
- Missouri Department of Conservation. 2009. Wired for the Wild. DVD Video Presentation.
- Missouri Department of Conservation. 2001. The Spirit of Conservation. DVD Video Presentation. 27 min.

Web Resources

Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. webpage.org. News. c2007-
Available from: <http://fishwildlife.blogspot.com>.

Missouri Department of Conservation. Blog-Fresh Afield. c2007-
Available from: <http://mdc.mo.gov/blogs/fresh-afield>

Missouri Department of Conservation. MDC Online. c1996.

Missouri Department of Conservation. MDC Online. c1996-
Available from: www.missouriconservation.org or www.mdc.mo.gov.



Regulations

Overview

- Regulations are established to best manage Missouri's valuable plant and animal communities, to provide equal opportunity for Missourians to share and enjoy these resources, and to promote public safety. Three factors—biological impact, social concerns, and enforceability—come into play as a regulation develops.
- The Department's Regulations Committee makes recommendations to the Conservation Commission about modifying the regulations in *The Wildlife Code*. Their recommendations are based on information gathered from Missourians who have suggestions or complaints about wildlife management or regulations, hunting and fishing surveys, opinion polls, and public meetings across the state. The committee then seeks the expert opinion of the Department's research biologists and managers. Based on this information, the committee makes its recommendations to the Conservation Commission.
- Most regulation changes go into effect March 1 each year. Information and permits for spring turkey season become available on March 1, and for deer season on July 1.
- The Regulations Committee meets about 10 times a year to discuss current regulations. Members of the public, as well as Department staff, are encouraged to propose recommendations and attend the Regulations Committee meetings.
- To be placed on the meeting agenda, send a written request at least 10 working days before the meeting date to:

Regulations Committee Chair
Missouri Department of Conservation
P.O. Box 180
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0180
FAX: (573) 751-4467

- The schedule and agendas of regulations committee meetings can be found online at www.mdc.mo.gov/regs/agenda.

Process for Developing Regulations

There are three factors that are considered when developing recommendations: biological impact, social concerns, and enforceability. The detailed steps to creating or modifying a regulation are listed below:

1. A division, region, or member of the public brings a recommended change to the Regulations Committee for consideration.
2. The committee approves, denies, or returns the recommendation to staff for further study (including instructions to engage or further involve stakeholders).
3. Approved recommendations are submitted to the Director for consideration and, if approved, the proposal is moved forward to the Conservation Commission for their approval. The Commission may also vote to amend, veto, or table the recommendation.
4. A recommendation approved by the Conservation Commission is filed with the Secretary of State as a proposed change. These can be viewed at www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/moreg/moreg.asp. Under the Missouri constitution, seasons and limits can be filed through an abbreviated process.
5. Once filed, there is a 30-day public comment period. Comments received are reviewed by the Regulations Committee and Conservation Commission who may decide to revisit the proposed change.
6. If no comments are received, after the 30-day comment period, the proposed change is filed again with the Secretary of State as an Order of Rulemaking.
7. The change becomes effective either 30 days after it is published in the *State Code of Regulations*, or at a future specified date.
8. In rare circumstances, some changes may be filed as emergency rules and become effective 10 days after filing with the Secretary of State.

The Wildlife Code

- The *Wildlife Code of Missouri* refers to Title 10 of the *Code of State Regulations*, which are the regulations set forth by the Conservation Commission.

- The *Wildlife Code* is a permissive code meaning that rather than a list of “thou shalt nots,” it is simplified by telling outdoor recreationists what they may do. Hunters, trappers, and anglers may take or attempt to take only those animals and fish permitted by *The Wildlife Code* and only by methods, and only at the times and under the circumstances mentioned in the *Code*. These regulations are necessary to protect and manage Missouri’s abundant game and furbearer populations and to make access to Missouri hunting and trapping as fair and as simple as possible.
- The *Wildlife Code of Missouri*, as part of the *Code of State Regulations*, is published by the Missouri Secretary of State. Printed versions are available at permit vendors statewide and is available online as part of the *Code of State Regulations* at <http://www.sos.mo.gov/adrules/csr/csr.asp>
- The document is divided into 13 chapters:
 - 1 - *Wildlife Code*: Organization
 - 2 - Forest Crop Lands
 - 3 - Monetary Values of Fish and Wildlife
 - 4 - General Provisions
 - 5 - Permits
 - 6 - Sport Fishing: Seasons, Methods, Limits
 - 7 - Hunting: Seasons, Methods, Limits
 - 8 - Trapping: Seasons, Methods
 - 9 - Confined Wildlife: Privileges, Permits, Standards
 - 10 - Commercial Permits: Seasons, Methods, Limits
 - 11 - Special Regulations for Department Areas
 - 12 - Special Regulations for Areas Owned by Other Entities
 - 20 - Definitions

There are no chapters 13-19; these chapters are reserved for future regulations, if needed.

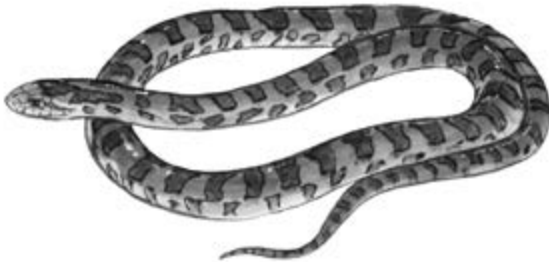
Regulations and maps of specific conservation areas are available from Conservation Department regional offices, and the online Conservation Atlas. <http://mdc4.mdc.gov/applications/moatlas/AreaList.aspx?txtUserID=guest&txtAreaNm=s>

Scientific evaluations provide the credible information and accountability needed by Department decision makers to address a host of natural resource and public use issues. Priority is given to studies where little is known about the subject areas but which have the potential to make the greatest impact on management, public use, and policy.

The Department has ongoing activities in six major areas:

- Population Management - determination of management and restoration techniques balanced with desires of users and the public
- Ecological Processes - determination of the processes that effect habitat conditions and how to effectively mimic these processes
- Management Evaluation - evaluation of management and policy actions to determine if goals are met and determine if change is needed
- Human Dimensions - gathering of public opinions and expectations for use in making resource policy and management judgments
- Large-Scale Planning - coordination of planning and program efforts within and outside the Department, and ensuring they are based on sound science and include evaluative measures
- Information Transfer - ensuring that data collected is timely, accurate, and arranged in a useful format

In fiscal year 2011, there were 47 activities to obtain public input, which included public information surveys, focus groups, and public meetings, involving 77,834 members of the public.



Traditions

State Fair

To support the strong ties of the agricultural community to conservation, the Department has had a permanent pavilion at the Missouri State Fair since 1934.

- In 1986, the state fair pavilion was renovated to create an aquaria representing Missouri aquatic habitats and an air-conditioned discovery area was added, expanding the educational programs available to the public.
- The fish aquaria, live animals, and other exhibits remain a favorite of fairgoers with more than 95% of attendees visiting the conservation programs and educational displays. In addition to wildlife exhibits, the conservation's displays include native plant landscapes, live demonstrations on conservation topics, hands-on activities for kids, and staffed booths to address citizen questions.
- The famed "Old Blue" catfish has been on display since 1938. In truth, the first "Old Blue" ended its 33-year career at the State Fair in 1971. A second catfish, "Old Blue II," replaced the first one for another 24 years. "Old Blue III" began its career in 1995.

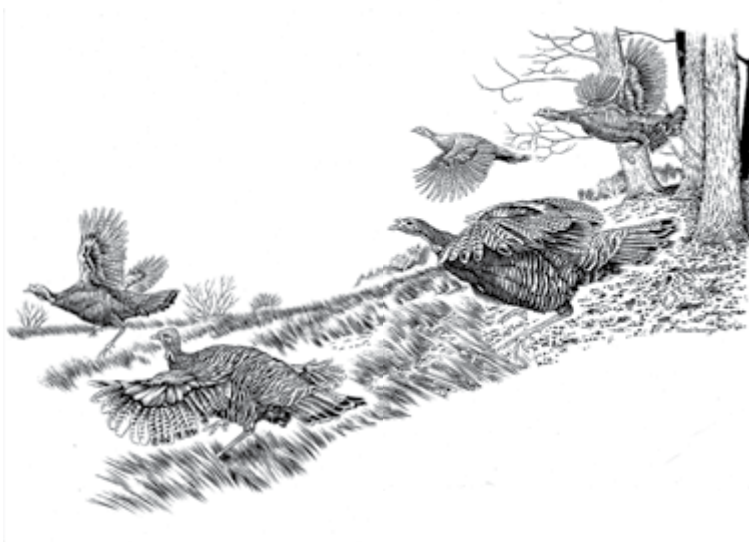
Arbor Day

In honor of Arbor Day, the Department gives a seedling tree to every 4th grade student in Missouri (of those classes that choose to sign up). Every type of school is eligible. In 2012, 100,825 seedlings were distributed to over 3,000 classes.

Murals

The story of conservation in Missouri is told pictorially by the murals of Charles W. Schwartz, which grace the foyer of the Department headquarters in Jefferson City. The murals trace the history of forest, fish, and wildlife resources of the state from the pristine conditions of 1700; through the era of European settlement and exploitation; to conservation efforts up to the passage of the Conservation Sales Tax Amendment in 1976. Begun in 1965, the mural series was dedicated on the 50th anniversary of the Department in 1987.

The story of conservation told through Schwartz’s murals is continued in the three murals of Mark Raithel in the Conservation Commission meeting room in the Department headquarters. Painted in 1998, the murals depict conservation efforts and advancements in the 1970s, 1980s, and 1990s.



Volunteer Programs

Volunteering is just one way that Missourians work to improve forest, fish, wildlife, and outdoor recreation opportunities in their communities. These are just some of the volunteer programs that the Department is involved in.



Hunter Education Instructors

Over 1,788 volunteer Hunter Education Instructors assist the Department instructors to teach hunter education classes that enable state residents to become safe, responsible, and involved hunters. The training has helped reduce Missouri's hunting accident rate by 70%. The 10-hour

certification course teaches how firearms operate, safe hunting practices, hunting traditions and ethics, and hunter responsibilities, and is followed by a written examination. An online Hunter Education Training Module, coupled with a five-hour field day is now an available alternative.

Persons interested in volunteering to teach hunter education can contact their local outdoor skills specialist at www.mdc.mo.gov/teacher/contacts.



Missouri Forestkeepers

The Missouri Forestkeepers Network is a volunteer forest monitoring program that launched in 1996.

The 2,600+ members monitor the health of forests, attend workshops and special events, participate in forest management, and serve as advocates for trees in their communities. In 2011, volunteers across Missouri contributed 21,678 hours of volunteer service to improve the health of Missouri's forests. The program is administered by the Department in partnership with Forest ReLeaf of Missouri, a not-for-profit organization. www.forestkeepers.org



Missouri Master Naturalists

Missouri Master Naturalist is an education and volunteer program. Participants attend a 40-hour training on conservation concepts, eight hours of advanced training, and donate 40 hours of volunteer service that supports conservation efforts and natural resource education in their local communities in order to attain certification. Since

2004, over 1,500 volunteers have completed the initial training and over 60% have become certified Master Naturalists. Volunteers have logged over 165,000 hours to conservation in Missouri and completed 40,000 hours of advanced training. The program is a partnership between the Department and University of Missouri Extension.

<http://extension.missouri.edu/masternaturalist/>



Stream Teams

Missouri Stream Team is a working partnership of citizens who are concerned about Missouri Streams. Volunteers attend trainings, participate in hands-on stream projects, and advocate on behalf of their adopted streams. In 2010, there were 4,321 teams, and volunteers spent 146,361 hours working on their adopted streams. Since the program began in 1989, volunteers have spent a total of 1,771,212 hours protecting and improving Missouri streams. The program is a partnership between the Department, the Conservation Federation of Missouri, and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources.

<http://www.mostreamteam.org/>

Volunteer Naturalists

The Volunteer Naturalist program is designed to reach people on a personal level with a conservation message. Some duties may include patrolling trails, answering questions, staffing the visitor information desk, presenting interpretive programs, or assisting with projects that require specific expertise or talents. Age limitations, hours of training required, and minimum number of hours spent working may vary depending on the program.

Shooting Range and Outdoor Education Centers

Volunteer opportunities are available at all five of the Department-staffed Shooting Ranges and Outdoor Education Centers. Some duties include assisting with shooting, outdoor skills and hunting related programs, or monitoring the shooting line for safety. Every year the staffed ranges see well over 125,000 shooters combined making volunteers an important resource for safe operation of the ranges

Volunteer opportunities are available at many Department facilities. A list of places to volunteer can be found on the public website at <https://mdc5.mdc.mo.gov/recruitment/Recruitment.aspx?strRoute=x>.



Index

#

4-H program 88

A

Administrative Support –
Director's Office 32
AmerenUE 68
anglers, number of 3, 4, 5,
53, 91
annual reports 13, 42, 73
Apprentice Hunter
Authorization permit 69, 72
Arbor Day 102
Army Corps of Engineers, U.S.
47, 55, 88
Assistant to the Director 31
Association of Fish and Wildlife
Agencies 97
Atlas, Conservation. Missouri's
conservation database 75,
95, 100
Auditor, internal - Director's
Office 32

B

Bedell, Don C 19
Blair, James T, IV 19
budget, Department 4, 5, 13
budget, state 4, 5, 12, 16

C

Catfish Harvest Evaluation
project 69
Challenge and Response 62
chronic wasting disease 43,
68, 71
Code of State Regulations
(and the Wildlife Code) 24,
74, 98-100
Commission, Conservation 11,
19-22, 23-24, 30-32, 60, 61, 64,
68, 69, 70, 71, 74, 78, 98, 99
Commission, Conservation
– formation 19, 20-21, 23,
30, 59
Community Assistance
Program 43, 64, 89

Comprehensive Wildlife
Strategy 18, 69
conservation agent 7, 25, 26,
37, 43, 47, 49, 62, 67, 69, 81, 82
Conservation Atlas 75, 95, 100
Conservation Federation of
Missouri 11, 20, 37, 47, 59, 64,
81, 82, 84
Conservation Hall of Fame 11
Conservation Opportunity
Areas 69
Constitution of Missouri 16, 20,
21, 23-24
County Aid Road Trust
payments - *see county
payments*
county payments - County Aid
Road Trust payments 48, 50
county payments - Forest Crop
Land payments 16, 48, 51,
52, 64
county payments - in lieu of
real estate taxes 48
county payments - levee and
drainage district taxes 48
Custodian of Records -
Director's Office 31, 32

D

Department of Agriculture,
Missouri 42, 86
Department of Agriculture,
U.S. 46, 58, 86, 87, 89
Department of Natural
Resources, Missouri 31, 41,
75, 86, 90, 105
Department of Transportation,
Missouri 68, 81
Deputy Directors 31, 32
Design for Conservation
strategic plan 16, 29, 63, 84
Dingell-Johnson Act 56, 61
Director, Department 11, 20,
22-24, 30-33, 59, 67, 70, 99

E

E-Permits 70
economic impacts 54
Elk 42-43, 68, 70
Employees, Department 1, 9,
11, 20, 24, 30, 39, 40, 45, 49,
60, 67-68, 70, 74, 78, 83

endangered species 7, 25, 29,
37, 42, 63, 88
Endangered Species Act 63, 88

F

Farm Bill 57, 58, 65, 67, 87
Farm Service Agency 86
federal aid 31, 32, 43, 55-58
Federal Aid Unit - Director's
Office 31, 32
feral hog 71
fire departments – local 2, 48
First Fish program 68
Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S.
5, 25, 53-55, 56, 69, 75, 88, 91
fish kills, contacts 25
flood of 1993 66, 67
Forest Crop Land - *see county
payments*
Forest Crop Land program 60
Forestkeepers Network 104
forest products 4, 15, 35, 54
Forest ReLeaf of Missouri 47,
104
Forest Service, U.S. 47, 48, 55,
58, 60, 81, 89

G

General Counsel Unit -
Director's Office 31, 32
Governor of Missouri 19, 23, 59
Grow Native! Program 68

H

Hancock Amendment 64, 67, 68
Heritage Card 93, 94
Hunter Education 2, 3, 4, 36, 37,
49, 61, 65, 69, 72, 94, 104
Hunter Education Instructors
104
hunters, number of 2, 3, 4, 5,
47, 53, 91

I

in lieu of tax payments - *see
county payments*

J

Johnson, Don 19

L

land, Department of
Conservation 5, 29, 43, 48,
70, 75, 76, 77
land, private and private
landowners 2, 6, 34, 36, 38,
44, 47, 48, 57, 58, 68, 89
levee and drainage district
taxes - *see county payments*
logo, Department 63, 67, 78,
79, 80

M

magazine - *see Missouri
Conservationist magazine*
Master Conservationist Award
11
Master Naturalists, Missouri 2,
3, 104-105
media contacts 25, 83
meetings 22
Mission of the Department 8
Missouri Community Forestry
Council 66
Missouri Conservation
Heritage Foundation 47,
67, 68, 85
Missouri Conservation
Program Report 62
Missouri Conservationist
magazine 3, 7, 13, 36, 46, 49,
59, 63, 73, 83, 96
Missouri, demographics of
(*see also hunters, anglers,
or wildlife watchers,
numbers of*) 53
Murals 102-103

N

National Fish Habitat Initiative
43, 69
National Park Service 87
National Wildlife Federation 65
Natural Areas 75-77

Natural Areas Committee 75,
76, 87, 89
Natural Resource Conservation
Service 55, 58, 87
Nature Centers, Conservation
2, 34, 41, 48, 71
News Releases 83
No MOre Trash! campaign
68, 81
North American Wetlands
Conservation Act 65
nuisance wildlife contacts
26, 49

O

"Old Blue" catfish 102
Ombudsman Report 74
Operation Forest Arson 37, 66,
81, 84
Operation Game Thief 37, 64
82, 84
Ozark National Scenic
Riverway 75, 87

P

permit price comparisons
91-93
permit sales 13, 20, 49, 92, 93
permits to collect Species of
Conservation Concern 25
permit vendors 74, 93, 95, 100
permits, purchasing 94, 95
permits, special use 95
Pittman-Robertson Act 55, 59
Plattner, Becky L 19
Policy Coordination Unit -
Director's Office 31, 32
Policy Manuals 40, 74

Q

Quick Draw 70

R

Realty Committee 31
Realty Services Unit -
Director's Office 31, 33

recreation, fish and wildlife or
outdoor 4-6, 15, 29, 36, 45, 53,
54, 88, 91, 104
Regulations Committee 45,
98, 99
Regulations, developing 99

S

sales tax, conservation 2, 5,
13-16, 23, 24, 54, 63, 64, 67,
70, 84, 102
sales tax, local 14, 29, 54
sales tax, parks and soils 65, 66
sales tax, state 5, 14, 15, 54
Share the Harvest program 37,
47, 49, 82, 84
Soil and Water Conservation
District 65
species of conservation
concern - *see endangered
species*
Sport Fish Restoration
Program 55, 56, 65, 68
Stash Your Trash campaign
65, 81
State Fair 86, 102
State Forestry Act 60
State Park Board 59
State Parks 69, 86
Stephens, E Sydney 59
Stream Team program 2, 34, 47,
65, 70, 81, 84, 105

T

Taum Sauk reservoir 69
Telecheck 7, 69
tourism 4, 5
Transportation Equity Act
56, 68

U

University of Missouri
Extension 27, 88, 105

V

Vacancy Management Plan
violations, enforcement 70
Vision, Department 8
Volunteer Naturalist program
105
Volunteer Programs 104-105

W

Wallop-Breaux Act 56, 65
White-Nose Syndrome 70
Wildlife and Forestry Act 60

Wildlife Code of Missouri - see
Code of State Regulations
Wildlife Restoration Program
55, 59
wildlife watchers, number of
3, 5, 53

X

Xplor Kids' Magazine 3, 7, 36,
49, 70, 73



To learn more about

Conservation,

subscribe to the Missouri Conservationist
at <http://mdc.mo.gov>

POL005
2013

Equal opportunity to participate in and benefit from programs of the Missouri Department of Conservation is available to all individuals without regard to their race, color, nationality, sex, age or disability. Questions should be directed to the Department of Conservation, P.O. Box 180, Jefferson City, MO 65102, (573) 751-4115 (voice) or 1-800-735-2966 (TTY), or the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service of Federal Assistance, 4401 N. Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop: MBSP-4020, Arlington, VA 22203.